



The Muscogee Nation News

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Principal Chief Fife reflects on 1994 accomplishments

by Principal Chief Bill Fife

As we enter the new year, we can be thankful for a successful 1994 and look forward to new accomplishments. Muscogee Nation has made strides in achieving goals and strengthening the foundation for growth for our citizens.

The annual State of the Nation address will be Jan. 28 and I will give you a more complete review. However, a few highlights of 1994 are listed below:

- completion of the center for human development, which will house education, elderly nutrition, and wellness;
- the health administration is completing a comprehensive health center in Okmulgee, which includes a dental, general and pediatric clinic;
- completion of the strategic plan;
- the opening of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Manufacturing Enterprises with a contract from Zebco. It now employs 20 Creek citizens;
- funding from home improvement program to rehabilitate an estimated 20 Indian-owned homes;
- upgrading the telephone system which allows easier access to services and allows for easier expansion and upgrading at a more economically feasible rate;
- received funding for four community centers to be built in Tulsa, Sapulpa, Twin Hills, and Weleetka;
- partial renovation of Eufaula Boarding School;
- employment and training administration provided assistance and information to 1,180 clients;
- 109 students participated in the general education equivalent-adult basic education classes — 28 received their GEDs; and
- informal learning and cultural classes (basket making, beading, Creek language) were held in different communities.

Allie Reynolds dies

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee citizen Allie Reynolds died Dec. 27 after a battle with cancer. Reynolds, also known as the "Super Chief," was pitcher for the Cleveland Indians and the New York Yankees major league baseball teams. He was also a member of the first tribal gaming operations authority board. His obituary appears on page 7.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

The Muscogee Nation Center for Human Development.

New center for human development opens

by Dannette Geren

OKMULGEE — Muscogee citizens will soon be able to access education and training services in one location — the new Muscogee (Creek) Nation Center for Human Development.

Opening in January, it will also be the site for the elderly nutrition and wellness programs. The 16,000-square-foot building houses four main areas: education services, wellness education, dining, and multi-purpose.

This new facility is a result of grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and appropriations from bingo revenues by the National Council. This initiative, under Chief Bill Fife's administration, is a cooperative joint effort of the legislative and executive branches of government.

To date, education programs — Johnson O'Malley, vocational, higher education, etc., — have been located in different areas. With education services under one roof, accessibility will be easier for Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens.

"This building is designed to make our services easier and more accessible to our clients," said Valeria Littlecreek, tribal director of education. "Now, instead

of running all over, clients can come to one building for their education and training needs. We will also have a central area for our intake process and client assessment."

The education area has a classroom for skill development, a conference room with audio-visual capabilities, and a counseling and assessment area to determine clients' capabilities. Testing, which previously has been done at Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee, will now be done in-house.

With centralized areas of service, secretarial pools will be cross-trained — which will improve efficiency for clients and will better assist each department. Computers will be updated with the latest programs and skills will be upgraded which will benefit employees and make a more productive area. The application process for services will be more simplified.

"The move will definitely help our clients," said Curtis Hicks, manager of employment and training programs. "This structure will make our intake process and assessment easier for our clients"

In addition, Hicks believes the working area will be beneficial for more employees.

please see **BUILDING...**, page 8

Second Chief Crow offers best in New Year

by Shelly Crow, second chief

As we reflect on 1994 and hope for a better 1995, many of us may be at our wit's end as we keep working to accomplish the many tasks that we are required to do.

Many health scholars have been published concerning man and his health and illnesses. As health providers look at the diagnosis of man, the word disease itself has many interesting definitions. Disease means lack of ease or peace in one's life. Our Indian ways have always been to look at the holistic approach to man — mind, body, and spirit.

If we become stressed due to not liking our life situations, our bodies' immune systems become very sensitive to these situations. Stress is known to reduce the immune system. Therefore, a healthy mind will produce a healthy body.

When people discuss how tired they are with no physical symptoms to back them up, they may then be diagnosed with "chronic fatigue syndrome" — which simply means continuously tired for no known reason.

But, in reality there is a reason. A physician many not be able to put his finger on the exact cause or find in the medical books, a reason for this syndrome. The affected individual may be unhappy with their present state of life and have no coping skills to reduce this unhappiness.

"Self-Reliance," an essay by Ralph Waldo Emerson, was given to me recently and it has helped me to realize the Creator is ever present and has given us the ability for both independence and survival for the challenges we must overcome — challenges we had not planned to endure. An excerpt:

There is a time in every man's education when he arrives at the conviction that envy is ignorance; that imitation is suicide; that he must take himself for better or worse as his portion;

that though the wide universe is full of good, no kernel of nourishing corn can come to him but through his toil bestowed on that plot of ground which is given to him to till.

The power which resides in him is new in nature, and none but he knows what that is which he can do, nor does he know until he has tried.

Not for nothing one face, one character, one fact, makes much impression on him and another none.

This sculpture on the memory is not without pre-established harmony.

The eye was placed where one ray should fall, that it might testify of that particular ray.

We but half express ourselves, and are ashamed of that divine idea which each of us represents.

It may be safely trusted as proportionate and of good issues, so it be faithfully imparted, but God will not have his work made manifest by cowards.

A man is relieved when he puts his heart into this work and done his best.

May all elected officials, employees, and citizens look forward to serving our people by removing barriers that can lessen our stress to obtaining services, leading us all to self-reliance.

Happy New Year.

Letters to the editor

Citizen urges unity at grounds

Editor:

At one time in Creek territory there were 44 established tribal ceremonial grounds. Today there are probably 13 remaining [active]. For some reason or another, these ceremonial grounds are disappearing.

In some cases it has been our own people to dissolve our grounds because we lack the unity among our people. Unity is destroyed because there is no love for one another. People no longer try to work with one another. There are to many people that want to be the leader.

Some people do not wish to abide by the rules of [their] ground which were set by past mekkos. It takes every member of the ground — whether it be man, woman, or child — to fulfill their obligation to their mekko and to their ceremonial ground. When we de-

Legal Notice

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 24, issue 1

In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. In the matter of R.A.H., B.L.H., M.J.H., alleged deprived child, JV 93-37.

Notice of hearing

To the father of R.A.H., B.L.H., and M.J.H., name unknown.

You are hereby given notice of hearing on the above styled and numbered case for the purpose of termination of parental rights in the district courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 6th day of January 1995 at 1:30 p.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the court and custody be continued in the children and family services administration program for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are further informed that you have the right to be represented by counsel at this hearing.

(s) Patrick E. Moore, district judge

Legal notice

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 24, issue 1

In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. In the matter of T.M., alleged deprived child, JV 85-14.

Notice of hearing

To the father of T.M., name unknown.

You are hereby given notice of hearing on the above styled and numbered case for the purpose of termination of parental rights in the district court room of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 5th day of January 1995, at 1:30 p.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the court and custody be continued in the children and family services administration program for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are further informed that you have the right to be represented by counsel at this hearing.

(s) Patrick E. Moore, district judge

stroy one of the most valuable traditions that were brought over by many of our people that suffered. It is a great sadness that [this] can be destroyed by a few.

At a stomp dance this past summer, one member overheard an adult say they could not dance because there were too many children. The member said, "I'd rather see these young people here than out somewhere getting into trouble."

Where else can we take our children where they can become involved in their tradition, learn the ways, respect their elders and one another as it was taught long ago?

Where will our children get the support they need as young leaders and shell shakers if there are bad examples set for them?

Ernest Voice, Miami

Elder urges support and tolerance

Editor:

When I was very young Creeks was just a name. As I got older, I got to know the Creeks had a chief. I just didn't see much of anything the various chiefs did — except Chief Roley Canard gave me my first doll at Christmastime.

I was about four years old then. Times were hard. Not much was going for the Creeks. I did see Chief (Dode) McIntosh once and the only thing I remember of him was the big Indian ring on his finger.

They had a big write-up of him in the paper one time, honoring him for some good he must have done for the Creeks. I don't know where — certainly [nothing was done] where I live.

Time went on. One Creek chief after another. Finally, the Creator saw there were many faithful Creeks needing help. [I believe] he guided Claude Cox to do

please see LETTERS..., page 8

The Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

James Wolfe, managing editor

Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff writer

Four file for vacant McIntosh District Council seat

Four candidates have filed for McIntosh District Seat A to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council left vacant after the death of representative Tommy McIntosh. McIntosh district voters will cast ballots in a Jan. 28 special primary election. The special general election, if necessary, will be March 4.

For more information, contact the tribal election board at (918) 756-8700.

Candidate profiles

William Frye

Rt. 2 Box 389-A

Henryetta

Age: 38

Professional or political experience: Fluent in both Mvskoke (Creek) and English

Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Harbie Frye

Clan: Bear

Reason for seeking office: I don't believe you have to be 100 years old to realize people everywhere need help. I believe that no matter how rich you are or how poor you are, you are, one of these days, going to need help. If I get elected and that day comes, I'm going to help you.

Frank E. Kamp

306 Duffee St.

Eufaula

Age: 62

Occupation: Retired

Professional or political experience:

1986 - 1991, McIntosh District representative to Muscogee (Creek) National Council; 1988 - 1989, National Council



Kamp

Second Speaker;

former Eufaula Indian Community Chair and member of the EIC Board of Directors

Family: Two daughters, Beverly and La Donna; one son, Robert; and seven grandchildren

Parents: Silas P. and Kittie Mae Billings Kamp; Leah McIntosh Billings, maternal grandmother

Clan: Beaver

Reason for seeking office: I believe that I was instrumental in the development and gains that have been experienced by the Indian community organizations within the McIntosh District and that with my experience, I can be of assistance to the community organizations and to the individual Creek citizens of the district in the future.

Tommy Pickering

HC 63 Box 313

Eufaula

Age: 39

Occupation: Owner and operator of Tom's

Transmission and Garage (9 years)

Professional or political experience:

Two terms as representative for McIntosh District to the National Council; served as chair or member of various boards and committees on the Council and Eufaula Indian Community in the past and present

Family: wife, Judith; sons, Judd and Sheridan

Parents: James and Edna Burgess Pickering,



Pickering

Sapulpa

Church: West Eufaula Baptist Church

Clan: Sweet Potato

Reason for seeking office: To invest more in our youth, elders, and those who vote absentee who do not receive much help from the tribal government, as well as those in the McIntosh District. As a representative, it is a responsibility of each to be a servant of the people and to uphold the position seriously. This is my platform as a candidate.

Darrell D. Wesley

705 S.E. Third

Checotah

Age: 39

Occupation: Johnson-O'Malley Title V tutor, Checotah Public Schools

Professional or political experience: Present Checotah Indian Community Chair; employed with Checotah Public Schools for 15 years

Family: wife, Laura Ann Burgess; and son, Rodney Gene

Parents: the late Rev. Victor and Amanda Wesley
Church: Former member of Grave Creek Baptist Church; present member of Faith Temple, Checotah

Clan: Deer

Reason for seeking office: I am very interested in our tribal affairs. I am especially interested in the education and general welfare of our people. I am concerned with the direction that our tribe is going and [I] feel that I could be a positive and objective member of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. If elected to this position, I will always do my best to represent the people of my counties and listen to their concerns.

Yuchis petition for federal recognition

Associated Press

TULSA — Members of a small Oklahoma Indian tribe describe themselves as stepchildren, lost in a family where no one speaks their language or practices their customs.

For the Yuchi tribe, then, a recent decision by federal officials to review the tribe's petition for federal recognition comes as a huge breakthrough in a lengthy push for sovereignty.

"It's been a lifelong dream... and now it's closer than it has ever been before," said Melvin George, 50, a Yuchi who helped organize the petition drive.

The Yuchi, also spelled Euchee, were placed under the authority of the Creek (Muscogee) Nation after their removal by federal forces from the southeastern United States to what is now Oklahoma.

But the tribes speak different languages and unlike the Creeks, the Yuchis do not receive federal funds that would help the tribe maintain its own

culture and provide tribal services, members said.

Since the 1950s, the Yuchi have made several attempts to win their sovereignty, George said. The latest attempt was filed about two years ago. The BIA has begun early reviews of the petition in preparation for a formal evaluation, said BIA historian John Dibbern.

The tribe has to meet several requirements for approval, including an ability to define their history, show genealogical descent and existence as a community.

If the petition is approved, Dibbern said, "it would be a recognition of their sovereignty, of having a government-to-government relationship with the United States."

In Oklahoma, about 300 Indians have registered as being of Yuchi descent, George said. An estimated 1,500 Yuchis are scattered throughout the United States, he said.

Council breezes through agenda

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council addressed its agenda in less than 45 minutes at its December regular session.

Absent from the meeting were: Leah Jack, Creek Dist.; Clyde Johnson, Okfuskee Dist.; and Larry Bible and Edwin Moore, Tulsa Dist. McIntosh District Seat A remains vacant.

The 36-member tribal legislature acted on the following:

- approved unanimously (30-0) a resolution of the Council recognizing husbands, wives, and family of elected representatives and employees;
- approved unanimously (30-0) a tribal resolution supporting the re-authorization of the child care and development block grant regulatory amendments;
- approved (28-2) a bill (NCA 94-60) amending the Hospiatl and Clinics Act of 1994. Voting against the bill were: Tim Fife, Hughes-Seminole Dist. and Bruce Smith, Okfuskee Dist.;
- approved unanimously (30-0) the appointment of Wilbert Lowe of Weleetka, to the farm authority board; and
- approved (27-0) the appointment of Susan Shoney to the health board. Voting against the appointment was: Charlie Coker, Muskogee Dist.; Charlie Litsey and David Nichols, Okmulgee Dist.

In a Dec. 26 extraordinary session, the Council approved an extension of the fiscal year 1995 comprehensive budget. The bill authorizes 100 percent funding for budget line items with the exception of personnel, including fringe, and client services which was funded at 75 percent. Exclusions to the bill are: Creek Nation Housing Authority; industrial development board; farm authority board; transit, and Creek Nation Foundation.

Voting against the measure were: Judy Roberts, Okfuskee Dist.; and Litsey, Okmulgee Dist.



Wrap it up.

Tillie Tomah of the Muscogee Nation Social Services program, wraps presents for the children who attended the children and family services division Christmas party.

photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Program briefs

Tribe awarded for financial reporting

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been awarded the certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting for its comprehensive annual financial report by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA).

This certificate is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

An award of financial reporting achievement is awarded to the individual designated as primarily responsible for preparing the award-winning CAFR — Principal Chief Bill Fife.

The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive spirit of full disclosure to communicate clearly its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving 12,625 government financial professionals with offices in Chicago, Illinois, and Washington D.C.

Tribe hosts royalties conference

OKMULGEE — Approximately 80 royalty owners attended a one-day oil and gas conference at Muscogee (Creek) Nation sponsored by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Minerals Management Service, and Bureau of Land Management Dec. 14.

"This is [the result] of a request to have the conference in Okmulgee by Principal Chief Bill Fife at last year's conference which was held in Muskogee, said Floyd Waters, BIA Realty Specialist. "It is also an outreach effort by these federal agencies to educate and provide information to clients about their leases."

The conference also invited Seminole Nation royalty owners and oil and gas industry representatives.

Originally, there were approximately 3 million acres of allotted land in Creek Nation. Currently there are approximately 42,000 acres of leases. The BIA administers over 250 federal leases for the Muscogee Nation that generates over \$1 million annually.

Fife said he wanted to make sure tribal citizens have an understanding of the options available, a good understanding of the management of leases, and the pros and cons of direct payments of royalty checks or administration by BLM.

Representatives attending the conference included: Charles Robertson, BIA Supervisory Realty Specialist; Phil Sykora, National Indian Minerals Steering Committee; Paul Tyler, Office of Indian Royalty Assistance, MMS; Jim Mason, BLM; Jack Chaney, BIA trust officer; Rodney Durosette, Muscogee Nation Realty Officer; and Keith Francis, field solicitor.

Tribal program receives grant

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Division of Children and Family and Family Services has received a \$200,000 adoption opportunities grant award. The award will assist families in the adoption of American Indian children.

The focus of the grant is three-fold. The first component will focus on increasing the number of tribally-approved adoptive homes that can provide a safe, stable, and nurturing environment to place 50 of 1,977 adoptive children.

The second component will be the establishment of an adoptive placement network in collaboration with the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma. This component will increase service delivery and the availability of prospective adoptive placements.

The five tribes social service programs are currently working in collaboration with the family preservation and support project.

The third component will be the creation of an adoptive placement database for minority children awaiting placement with prospective adoptive families. This will also incorporate the five tribes network.

"The Muscogee Nation is taking the lead in providing an array of services to the Native American population," said Scott Johnson, children and family services manager. "The adoption opportunities grant and the resulting collaboration with the Five Civilized Tribes is just one more example of this effort."

"The time has come for tribes and states to work in unison to achieve the common goal of providing quality services to the children and families of the Muscogee Nation and abroad."

Creek Nation Housing Authority changes hours

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Housing Authority offices are now open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Tribe contracts CDIB services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has contracted the certificate degree of Indian blood (CDIB) operation from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The tribal citizenship board has assumed the responsibility for CDIBs. Presently the citizenship board processes Muscogee Nation citizenship cards. The CDIBs, however, will not be issued unless an individual has a specific need which a tribal enrollment card will not fulfill.

Indians who are not tribal citizens residing within Muscogee Nation jurisdiction will still be able to receive a CDIB in some instances.

Tribal enrollment cards will be used by Indian Health Service and programs as verification of Indian blood and program eligibility.

Replacement costs for cards are \$5 which will cover minimum expenses — cost of paper, lamination, equipment, supplies, and labor associated with each card. For more information, contact the citizenship board at (918) 756-8700.

Tribe adds public relations specialist

OKMULGEE — Muscogee citizen Dannette Russell Geren has been named public relations specialist for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Geren will serve as media liaison for the tribe, including all public relations, and coordinate media activity for the tribe. She has been in the public relations and marketing field for more than 10 years — including a stint with the Indian Health Care Resource Center in Tulsa. Most recently, Geren was part-owner in a marketing and public relations firm.

She has been an advocate for minority and female businesses and served as co-chair of the City of Tulsa Certification Committee and a member of the city's Minority-Female Business Committee for the Human Rights Department.

Geren also serves as a board member of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce, Tulsa, Tulsa Area Indian Affairs Commission, and the American Red Cross.

Through the Red Cross, Geren is a member of the American Indian Decision to Survive (AIDS) committee which is developing an HIV-AIDS educational training manual for American Indian communities.

1995 Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo seeks volunteers

OKMULGEE — Plans are underway for the 1995 Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo, June 16, 17, and 18. Anyone interested in serving on a Festival subcommittee or becoming a Festival volunteer is urged to contact the Muscogee Nation Office of the Principal Chief at (918) 756-8700 or write P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Tribal manufacturing enterprise successful

by Dannette Geren

OKMULGEE — Only 9 months old, the tribe's newest economic development project — Muscogee Nation Manufacturing Enterprise (MCNE) is off to a good start. The manufacturing facility began in March of 1994 with joint funding and cooperation from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Administration for Native Americans, the tribe's Job Training Partnership Act program, and five employees.

Presently MCNE is doing contract assembly and packaging work for one of the nation's largest fishing rod manufacturer's — Zebco. To date, they have assembled over 250,000 reels; 100,000 rods; 4,000 pumps; and over 240,000 DeLiars (fish weight scale). In the last two months they've put together 45,000 units of their newest job — Zebco's 40th anniversary product, the 3340 Combo Pack — and, they now employ 22 Muscogee citizens.

Plant manager Grover Wind said they are responsible for eight Zebco projects, some which are turn-key, meaning assembly, welding, soldering, and packaging. Products are then ready for shipment directly to retail distributors, including Wal-Mart and K-Mart.

Manufacturing employees have a reason to be proud of their accomplishments, Wind said. "By the time the product is ready for shipment, it's been checked by 4 or 5 employees. Our quality control with Zebco states there are zero rejects. They have absolute pride in their work."

Currently, MCNE is quoting 20 new jobs for Zebco. Although, Zebco has been the major source of contracts, they also perform work for Max Buchanan, a manufacturer of health products, including massagers, and muscle therapy equipment. Discussions are also underway with Braden Winch, one of the nation's largest winch manufacturers.

With over 90 jobs on his desk to quote on, Wind said "We have a great challenge, which any small business would like — more work than we have room or employees to handle. When we can afford additional space, we can easily double or even triple the workforce. We are being contacted by major companies wanting us to do work for them." The facility, including warehouse, staging and assembly is only 3,500 square feet.

The manufacturing provides an opportunity for Muscogee citizens to increase skill levels. By learning the assembly and manufacturing trade, those skills are marketable in any community. Wind said Creek citizens are especially proud of their work. The company promotes from within and believes that this practice helps with the pride the employees show in their work. An employee-of-the-month program has also been implemented. "Our goal is to grow and be able to hire and train more Creek citizens," Wind said, who has received over 900 applications for employment from Creek citizens.

Woody Anderson, director of natural and physical resources said, "We are at a starting point for diversification and expansion. Based on our ability to increase other capabilities, we can expand in a methodical manner, increasing our manufacturing level and

Head Start, health officials develop new program

OKMULGEE — Creek Nation Head Start Director Sherryl Gonseth and Head Start Health-Disabilities Coordinator Robert Satterfield met with Second Chief Shelly Crow and Children's Medical Center representative Phyllis McGilbray to discuss a wide range of medical services.

"There are at least 10 percent of Head Start children enrolled with disabilities ranging from speech-language developmental, emotional, attention deficit disorders, hearing, vision, and physical disorders," Gonseth said.

Crow said a support group for parents and guardians of those children with attention deficit disorder (ADD) has been formed.

"The problems have been identified and the parents of these children are in desperate need of our help and cannot wait any longer for assistance with this problem."

Crow said the support group is culturally-sensitive and will begin making presentations at the community level.

"It is my hope [that] we would educate our employees on this so we could all be giving out the same information on the problem as well as how to access [tribal] services," Crow said.

Gonseth said the need to organize and treat is critical.

"As is true for any high-risk child and-or family, collaboration among our agency and other professional

services is critical to providing comprehensive health care to children and families," Gonseth said. "With these services available, Head Start children will no longer have to be put on long waiting lists to obtain these kinds of services."



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

From left, Phyllis McGilbray, Children's Medical Center, meets with Sherryl Gonseth, tribal Head Start director, Robert Satterfield, Head Start health-disabilities coordinator, and Shelly Crow, Muscogee Nation Second Chief, to discuss available services for education and treatment of disabilities that affect children and families of Head Start.

Family focus is still the key to early intervention. Acknowledging the central role of the family in the child's assessment and giving parents an array of services to choose from only increases the parents' knowledge and understanding of their child's unique strength and needs.

"Head Start's goal has always been to empower the parents to meet the needs of our children," Gonseth said.

Family services program wins grant award

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Division of Children and Family Services has received the Title IV-B Children Services Grant Award.

The grant is provided through Title IV of the Social Security Act. The grant will assist the children and family services division to provide comprehensive services to the children and families of the Muscogee Nation.

Prevention services are provided to children and families that are at risk. These services include: temporary out of home placements; child care; counseling; financial assistance; resource and referral; and child protection. The procedures for reporting child abuse will be streamlined and will also provide for interagency coordination, child advocacy, and courtesy home studies.

The comprehensive child placement program (foster care) has been established and will be enhanced through the grant program. This program entails an intensive recruitment effort for potential foster care providers, comprehensive home studies, and coordination with state agencies to provide placement services. A staff training component has been incorporated to provide the legislative and operational aspects of the program.

A family reunification and adoption services will be utilized to reunite families that have been victimized by domestic violence or child abuse. An adoption assistance component will also be available to provide safe, nurturing family environments for those children available for adoption.

Multicultural education institute to meet in March

EDMOND — The University of Central Oklahoma and Langston University will present the 12th Annual Multicultural Education Institute March 3 and 4 at the UCO campus. The institute theme for this year is "Multicultural Education: Together We Learn," and will highlight nationally-known keynote speakers and local presenters in several concurrent sessions. Sessions will be held from 5:30 to 10 p.m., March 3; sign-in registration from will be held from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Activities are scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 4. The registration fee for the institute is \$35 and includes materials and two meals. For more information, contact: Dr. April Haulman, UCO, at (405) 341-2980, ext. 5139; Dr. Judith L. Flores, Langston University, (405) 466-3384; or Judy Black, Oklahoma State Department of Education, (405) 521-3196.

Muscogee coed Bacone homecoming queen

MUSKOGEE — Muscogee citizen Jenny Lucille Sumka was crowned the 1994-95 Bacone College Homecoming Queen.

A 1994 Henryetta High School graduate, Sumka is a freshman majoring in journalism. She is the sports reporter for the school newspaper as well as secretary-treasurer for the newspaper production club.

Sumka is also active in the college's Native American Student Association Club.

She is the daughter of Jeanetta Sumka of Henryetta, and Thomas Little of Tulsa. Her maternal grandparents are Benjamin and Lucille Sumka of Henryetta.



Sumka

Muscogee collegiates

Haskell student named to who's who

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Tulsa Creek Vera Tyner has been named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

Tyner was one of nine Haskell Indian Nations University students who have been named to the 1995 edition of the book.

Students were selected on the basis of their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

Student named to who's who

WILBURTON — Creek student Rita E. Courtwright is one of 49 Eastern Oklahoma State College students selected for inclusion in the 1995 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

Courtwright, Checotah, is a journalism major and maintains a 4.00 grade point average. She is a member of: press club, secretary; aggie club; drama club, student senate representative; photo club, president; president's club; and soil judging team.

Among awards she has received are: first place newspaper staff at Northeastern State University's Press Day; and second place at Oklahoma Collegiate Press Association. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Courtwright of Checotah.



Courtwright

Society briefs

Morris youth wins rodeo awards

MORRIS — Muscogee citizen Yammie Monawhee Jr. capped a successful season in junior steer riding winning a saddle from the American Indian Rodeo Association of Oklahoma.

In his first year of competition, the Morris Elementary School third-grader also won two first place buckles at the Sac and Fox Nation Rodeo and the AIRAO regional finals. He is the son of Yommie Monawhee of Morris and JoAnna King of Okmulgee.



Monawhee

Muscogee births

Isaac Xavier Epperson

OKMULGEE — Isaac Xavier Epperson was born Aug. 24 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital. He weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces and measured 20 and one half inches in length.

His parents are Shawn and Prima Epperson of Henryetta. Maternal grandparents are Jim and Linda Buckley, Henryetta. Maternal great-grandparents are Helen and the late Rev. Lewis Bible, Dewar, and the late Henry and Lizzie Buckley, Weleetka.

Paternal grandparents are Jim and Linda Epperson, Ceder Bluff, Va. Great-grandmothers are Mrs. Epperson of North Carolina and Mrs. Forelli of Kentucky.



Epperson

Brenna Merkv Tecumseh

OKMULGEE — Brenna Merkv Tecumseh was born to Telle Tecumseh and Jennifer Bear, Okmulgee, at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital on Dec. 3. She weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Paternal grandparents are July and Norma Tecumseh of Okmulgee.



Tecumseh

Citizen wins misses beauty contest

NORMAN — Tribal citizen Candus Dawn Ingram won first place in the Midwestern Misses Beauty Contest in the five and six year-old age group. Ingram is the daughter of April Perry. Her grandparents are Bud and Phyllis Perry, Holdenville, and the late Linda Nygard. Great-grandparents are Joe and the late Flossie Reos, Del City, and Susan and the late Alonzo Perry, Holdenville.



Ingram

Youth raises funds for health charities

TULSA — Muscogee citizen Tiffany Williams recently participated in the March of Dimes Walk raising \$60 for charity in the 3-mile walk in the Mohawk Park Area. She earned a tee shirt depicting an Indian family and a medal. Williams also raised money for the American Heart Association by jumping rope for a span of two hours. She earned a medal, a cup, and jump rope for her involvement in this project. She is the daughter of Jean Waller Rhodes and the granddaughter of the late Elaine Anderson.



Williams

Community briefs

Tulsa community to form women's group

TULSA — The first meeting of Tulsa Creek Indian Community women interested in starting a women's auxiliary will be held at 6:30 p.m., Jan. 10. The meeting will be held at the center, located at 6363 E. 31st St., Room 105. Gloria Lowe will be coordinating the first meeting. For more information, call the community office at 832-7062.

The community recently announced its 1994-95 board of directors. Board members are: chair, Pat Kelly; vice-chair, Rick Wilde; treasurer, Pamela Snyder Osmun; secretary, Carol Morris; and sergeant-at-arms, Greg Moore.

The community celebrated the second anniversary of the opening of its community smokeshop and grand opening of its trading post Dec. 18. The post features a walk-in smokeshop and giftshop.

Kellyville elects new officers

KELLYVILLE — Kellyville Indian Community members elected new officers at its Dec. 5 meeting. New officers are: chair, Shirley A. Brown; vice-chair, Newman Littlebear; secretary, Melissa G. Johnson; treasurer, Delbert Dunn; and sergeant-at-arms, Lou White.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation obituaries

VIRGIL VERNON CANARD

ALBUQUERQUE — Funeral services for Virgil Canard were held Nov. 14 at St. Mark's On-The-Mesa Episcopal Church.

He died Nov. 10 at the University of New Mexico Hospital.

He was born Aug. 1, 1915 in Wetumka to Roley and Annie Carr Canard.

He was a veteran of World War II, member of the Masonic Lodge, and was a 32nd degree Mason in the Oklahoma Chapter. After 37 years of employment with the U.S. Public Health Service, Indian Health Service in Albuquerque, he retired in 1970. He was full-blood Creek and very proud of his Indian heritage. His father was principal chief of the Creek Nation from 1935 - 39 1936.

He is survived by: his wife, Ruth S. Canard; sons, Robert L. Canard and Roger V. Canard; daughters, Linda C. Doering and Patricia C. Poston; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and a brother, Curtis L. Canard.

NORMA JEAN HAIN

EUFULA — Funeral services for Norma Jean Douglas Hain were held Aug. 27 at Merritt Funeral Service Chapel with Rev. Raymond Beaver officiating.

Hain died at her Odessa, Texas home on Aug. 23.

Hain was born Dec. 14, 1934 in Eufaula. She is the daughter of Clarence and Lorene Owens Douglas. She was raised by her grandmother, Melissa Cosar Douglas. She became a member of the First Baptist Church, Eufaula, at an early age. She was a graduate of Eufaula High School and Haskell Institute. She worked for American Airlines, Tulsa, for many years and was employed as an apartment complex rental manager in Odessa.

She was preceded in death by: her mother; and grandmother.

She is survived by: her father of Eufaula; a daughter, Lisa Ann Jones of Denison, Texas; three sons, Tommy Allen and Richard Todd Hain, both of Odessa, and Toby Douglas Hain of Berkeley, Calif.; two sisters, Raylene Hill Spoon of Bokchito and Dianne Reynolds of Eufaula; two aunts, Jerlena Douglas King of Eufaula and Theda Rushing of Albuquerque, N.M.; one uncle, John Douglas of McAlester; and two grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Jack Davis; Tommy Pickering; Roderick Schneider; Roscoe Horn; Bruce Douglas; and Jon Tiger.

Interment was in Greenwood Cemetery.

MICHAEL HICKMAN

HOBBS, N.M. — Funeral services for R. Michael Hickman were conducted on Nov. 11.

Hickman's death occurred at his Fort Smith, Ark. home on Nov. 7.

He was born in Hobbs on Feb. 4, 1953. He is the son of Archie R. and Hazel Baker Hickman of Hobbs.

He is survived by: his parents; a son, Bobby of Jonesboro, Ark.; a sister, Barbara Schaaphok of Hobbs; and three brothers, David of Washington, D.C., Stephen of Hobbs, and John of Pampa, Texas. He was preceded in death by: his grandparents, Mack and Mahaley Fish Hickman of Henryetta and John and Mary Etta Baker of Stilwell.

A full citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Hickman was employed as an electronics specialist and was an alumnus of Northeastern State University, the University of New Mexico, and TVI in Albuquerque, N.M.

GARY LEE LANDSBERRY

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Gary Lee Landsberry were held Dec. 2 at the First Christian Church, Okmulgee, with Rev. Bunny Hill officiating.

He died Nov. 29 in Sapulpa. He was born Aug. 25, 1957 in Henryetta to Jack and Gladys Albert Landsberry.

He was a resident of Okmulgee and was employed by Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo.

He was preceded in death by: two brothers, Robert and Charles Landsberry.

Survivors include: his parents; four brothers and two sisters-in-law, Alvin Landsberry of the home, Barney Ingram of Okmulgee, Steven and Wayna Landsberry of Henryetta, and Jack and Toni Landsberry of Okmulgee; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Mary Taylor of Okmulgee, Helen and James Lee of Tulsa, and Linda and Richard Schmuck of Spiro; numerous nieces; and several nephews.

Burial was in the Barnett Family Cemetery.

ALLIE P. REYNOLDS

OKLAHOMA CITY — Funeral services for Allie P. Reynolds were held Dec. 30 at First Presbyterian Church.

Reynolds was born Feb. 10, 1917 to David and Mary Reynolds in Bethany and died Dec. 27 in Oklahoma City following an extended illness.

A graduate of Oklahoma A & M (now Oklahoma State University), Reynolds was a charter member of May Avenue United Methodist Church and a 32nd Degree Mason. He played professional baseball for the Cleveland Indians and the New York Yankees.

Reynolds was also owner and president of Atlas Mud and Reynolds Petroleum. He was also active in several American Indian causes and projects including: president of the American Indian Hall of Fame; president of the Center of the American Indian; and founding president of Red Earth.

Reynolds was also an original member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Au-

thority Board and United Native Indian Tribal Youth.

The six-time American League All-Star was the first league pitcher to have two no-hitters in the same season and as a result won the Hickok Award for outstanding pitcher. He also established the record for the most World Series wins with seven.

Reynolds considered his work as an American League player representative his greatest contribution to baseball as it led to a player pension program.

Awards and honors include: Oklahoma Heritage Hall of Fame; Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame of the Jim Thorpe Association; OSU Hall of Fame; Hickok Award; Oklahoma Baseball Hall of Fame; Outstanding Indian, 1952-54; American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame; Creek Nation Medallion Award; Henry G. Bennett Award, OSU; and the Center of the American Indian Benefit Award. Allie P. Reynolds Stadium at OSU is named for him.

He was preceded in death by: his wife, Earlene; a son, Allie Dale; grandson, Michael; brother Jim; and his parents.

Survivors include: daughter, Bobbye Kaye Ferguson of San Francisco, Calif.; son, J.D. Reynolds of Mustang; brother, Brenton Reynolds of Brooklyn, Texas; eight grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

Interment was in Memorial Park Cemetery.

NORA WEST

THEWARLE — Funeral services for Nora West were held Nov. 26 at Thewarle Baptist Church with Rev. Bill Beaver officiating.

She was born July 21, 1911 in Okfuskee County to Lumsey and Emma Hill West and died Nov. 23 in her Dustin home.

She was a homemaker and an elder in Thewarle Baptist Church.

Survivors include: one daughter, Betty Frye of the home; and one brother, William West.

Pallbearers were Frank Belcher; Richard "Tuskee" Phillips; Perryman Sumka; Willard West; Rufus Whitlow; and Brian Fife.

Interment was in the West Family Cemetery.

Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge Rev. Malcolm Tiger for officiating in the funeral service of our loved one, John Ellis Scott.

His name was accidentally omitted from the funeral service obituary.

The John Ellis Scott Family

Manufacturing enterprise growing

continued from page 5

extent of the job market."

Anderson said MCNE has been working with the Tribal Government Institute of Norman, on a variety of programs including a mentor protege program, a joint venture with Executone; and a team venture program with a major manufacturer.

Jimmy Gibson BIA Okmulgee Agency Superintendent, the BIA has been supportive of this facility since the inception with both planning and funding. "We've watched this endeavor closely, and feel, since it's the only industrial plant which Creek Nation has, we are very interested in its growth." Gibson said they are in the process of looking for additional funding to assist the facility's growth.

Recently, MCNE received an award for outstanding tribal economic development company from Oklahoma Indian Business Development Center.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Manufacturing Enterprise employees at work. submitted photo

New building to be fully inhabited soon

continued from page 1

"With everyone under one roof, we'll be able to provide our services more efficiently and we'll be working as a team. All of these changes will make us more efficient for clients, and make us an even stronger team," Littlecreek said.

The center is also the new home for the senior citizen nutrition program and wellness area.

"This helps us be more [interactive] with our seniors," said Lou Jean Tilley, acting program director. "We have a wellness area where we will screen blood pressure and sugar levels."

Since education is a focus of the tribe, one of her key responsibilities will be educating senior citizens and their families, on nutrition and dietary concerns.

The facility will also house a comprehensive wellness and fitness center and is the first of its kind in a tribal setting. The center will be targeted to improve employee, as well as community, wellness and fitness. The program will consist of an exercise equipment room which will house various equipment designed for a variety of exercises.

Classrooms are wired for computer technology and for audio-visual equipment. Restrooms have a shower

and an area for mothers to nurse or to change their infants. Room numbers are in braille, and to stress the language, many signs are in Mvskoke. And it is intended for the cultural library to serve as a source for research and informational material about the tribe.

"With one of the tribe's major emphases being on education and families, we're excited about the new center for human development," Littlecreek said. "This is an initial thrust in making our services more accessible and easier for our citizens and creating a better work environment for employees."



Santa Claus, a.k.a Louie Jackson, hands out gifts to Head Start students at their annual Christmas program Dec. 19. photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Creek completes Tulsa marathon, run

TULSA — Angela Barnoskie placed second overall female in the 26.2 mile Tulsa Marathon. Barnoskie, Creek-Pawnee, placed second overall female with a time of three hours and 29 minutes. She also placed first in her age group. She also participated in the Tulsa Run. Barnoskie finished the run in 65 minutes and 48 seconds and received a Tulsa Run coffee cup for completing the run in under 70 minutes time. Barnoskie is the daughter of Lolita and Rev. Virgil Cook of Yale.

Letters to the editor

continued from page 2

something for his race.

After Cox won, I remember visiting him in his little office at the [Oakdale] school house sitting behind a great big desk. He talked of things he had in mind for the Creeks.

He wanted to put the Creek Nation on the map. He did. He had a shine in his eye as he talked of big plans. The complex says it all. Through his leadership, I and many others are being helped to this day, with things like new homes, repairs, education, community health representatives, hospital, clinics, and so forth.

Yet, we still complain.

Cox faced many obstacles. At every turn there were his enemies, but his faith in the Creator kept him going. He has earned his rest.

Also, when I read *The Muscogee Nation News* — if things are not going so well the present chief tends to say "past administration." I think it would be nice of him to say "it's just not going as great as I thought it would be."

The next chief will probably say the same thing about his problems: "past administration."

As I write, I'm thinking of the time I went to the emergency room at Okemah two years ago. The Creek Nation paid for my pacemaker and hospital bill at St. Francis. I'm really thankful that the Creator chose Claude Cox as an instrument to bring help to his people.

There are many more things I would like to say, but the issue here is: let's stop our complaining and bickering and be thankful and be supportive of the present chief and his staff.

Thank you so much, Bro. Claude Cox.

Polly Berryhill Hill, Wetumka

Okmulgee representative notes action

Editor:

Through a bill passed by the National Council, I had \$2,000 returned to the Okmulgee Indian Community. The bill, NCA 94-75, was authored by me and the money was given back to the rightful owners and back to the [community's] smokeshop.

Charlie Litsey, Okmulgee

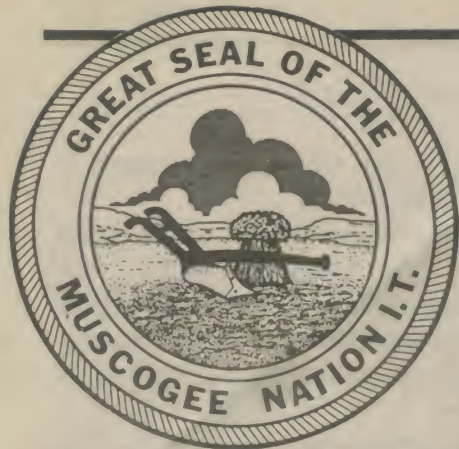
Editor's note: Okmulgee District representative Litsey sponsored a bill that authorized restitution procedures for loss from injury or property. The money had been paid to the tribal court as a condition of sentencing resulting from an embezzlement conviction of a former community member.

Head Start staff grateful

Editor:

The Okmulgee Creek Nation Head Start Center would like to thank the Creek Nation Okmulgee Dental Clinic for providing an angel tree for the Head Start students. Thanks also to the staff and families of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who participated by selecting an angel. Each of you helped make Christmas special for our students.

Barbara O'Neal, Okmulgee



The Muscogee Nation News

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March 1995, 12 Pages

A message from Principal Chief Bill Fife

It has been a busy month with staff from education and cultural preservation moving into the new center for human development. This is a year of growth for the Creek Nation with the new building, the new clinic in Okmulgee, and the many renovations around the complex. And as our nation grows, we are continually looking at ways to improve services and the economic level of our citizens.

Muscogee Nation has always had a good record of hiring Indian people in a variety of jobs — professional, maintenance, health care, secretarial, to name a few. However, until the start of Muscogee Nation Enterprise, we have not had a place for our skilled Creek people to work or a place to train Creek people in those skills.

Since that initial contract from Zebco and its five employees, 20 Creek citizens are now

employed and the manufacturing facility has outgrown its space. However, I am pleased to announce that we have recently received a grant for \$78,000 from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to be used for our manufacturing enterprise. Among the identified needs are equipment, working capital, and expanded facilities.

This expansion will then give us the opportunity to provide more training and jobs for Creek citizens — citizens who might already be skilled in manufacturing, or want to learn a skilled trade.

With an expansion of the manufacturing potential, there are an unlimited number of contracts we can go after. We have the labor force to draw from, our Muscogee citizens and we now will have the facility to handle any size of contract.

An example of the potential in an expanded facility was shown in a recent tour taken by five Council members, the MNE manager, and myself. We visited a company in Broken Arrow which is interested in contracting with our manufacturing facility. Without expansion, we could not hope to enlarge our cooperation but with funding we can get more contracts which means more jobs for Muscogee citizens.

This is just part of the strategic plan which Council members, staff, and citizens helped put together to guide us into the future — one which has a solid economic base for our citizens.

Please feel free to call or come by my office if you would like to talk about many projects which are now in process.

Kansas governor signs resolution honoring Opothle Yahola

TOPEKA, Kan. — Kansas Governor Bill Graves signed a state house concurrent resolution honoring the "greatness of Opothle Yahola and [acknowledging] the tragedy" during the Muscogee flight into Kansas during the U.S. Civil War.

The Woodson County Preservation Society, Inc., and National Council Second Speaker Thomas Yahola have been lobbying to have the Big Sandy River Valley area in southeastern Kansas redesignated in honor of the Muscogee leader.

Opothle Yahola led a contingent of Muscogees through the Verdigris and Fall River valleys toward Fort Row in present Wilson County, Kan. Opothle Yahola was fleeing the disturbances caused by the U.S. Civil War.

Kansas state representative Rochelle Chronister of Neodesha, sponsored the resolution in committee, where it was approved.

In a letter regarding the event, Graves wrote,

please see KANSAS..., page 12

21st Annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo set June 16, 17, and 18

OKMULGEE — Plans are nearing completion for the 21st Annual Creek Nation All-Indian Rodeo held in conjunction with the Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo, June 16 and 17 at the tribal rodeo arena.

Event coordinator this year is Muscogee citizen Bob Arrington, one of the original committee members that organized the first rodeo that was the forerunner of today's festival.

Arrington, himself is known through Indian country for his years of rodeo participation. He has served as past president of the All Indian Rodeo Association of Oklahoma and serves as a commissioner for the Indian National Finals Rodeo, Inc.

"We plan to make this year's rodeo one of the best," Arrington said. "We pay top money and will be bringing in international competition."

Events include: saddle bronc riding; bareback bronc riding; bull riding; barrel racing; calf roping; steer wrestling; team roping; ladies

breakaway, old-timers roping; junior steer riding; and junior barrel racing. A calf scramble will also be held both nights.

For more information, contact Arrington at (918) 756-8700, ext. 348.

The 21st Annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo is June 16, 17, and 18. The annual tribal holiday event provides an array of competition and activities for everyone.

Planned activities include: men and women fastpitch softball tournaments; three-on-three basketball; golf tournament; five-kilometer run; senior citizens' activities; children's olympics; and the all-Indian rodeo.

Arts and crafts as well as food vendors will also be available.

The festival committee is also seeking volunteers.

For additional information or to volunteer, call (918) 756-8700, ext. 204 or write the committee at P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Second Chief Crow discusses leadership traits

by Shelly Crow, Second Chief

Many times I have been asked what qualities must a good leader possess to be able to accomplish their goals for others?

One of the most insightful books on leadership that I have read is "Leadership Secrets of Atilla the Hun."

Atilla the Hun has been characterized as an entrepreneur, diplomat, social reformer, statesman, brilliant field general, and a great party host. He is an example of the type of leader who is never satisfied and would rather take the initiative instead of doing nothing or reacting.

With that and from my personal experience, the following are qualities I believe a good leader should have to be effective. I also believe that any special method for accelerating the acquisition of leadership skills, attitudes, and attributes has yet to be discovered. With that, here are the qualities:

- leadership is a privilege. It is a privilege to have responsibility for direct actions and accountability for both successful and failed endeavors;
- a leader who surrounds himself or herself with those who always agree with him will receive mediocre advice;
- a wise leader never kills the messenger of bad news. Instead the one who failed to deliver the bad news is eliminated;
- a wise leader never asks a question for which he doesn't want to hear the answer and if the wrong question is asked, wrong answers will always be given;
- good leaders are seldom conceited or self-centered;
- strong leaders surround themselves with strong people. Weak leaders surround themselves with weak people;
- a leader can achieve anything for which he is willing to pay the price as competition thins out at the top of the ranks;
- fundamental errors are inescapable when the unqualified are allowed to exercise judgement and make decisions. Quick decisions are not always the best. Likewise, unhurried decisions. Final decisions should not be made by leaders headquartered miles away. The ability to make difficult decisions separates leaders from followers; and
- a good leader never places the people in situations where their weaknesses will prevail over their strengths, nor will a good leader expect the people to act beyond their wisdom and understanding.

As a nation, I believe we must learn to act as if our tribal goals are more important to us than our personal goals. But it is also critical for us to have a clear understanding of what those goals are.

please see CROW..., page 11

Legal notice

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 24 issue 3, March 1995

In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, in the matter of Minor Creek Children, JV 93-37.

Notice of hearing.

To the father of Bobby Lee Harjo, Renee Ann Harjo, and Mickel Jay Harjo, name unknown.

You are hereby given notice of hearing in the above styled and numbered case for the purpose of termination of parental rights in the district courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 24th Day of March 1995, at 1:30 p.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain a ward of the Court and custody be continued in the children and family services administration program for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are further informed that you have the right to be represented by counsel at this hearing.

(s) Patrick E. Moore, district judge

Legal notice

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 24, issue 3, March 1995

In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in the matter of Minor Creek Child Case, JV 85-14.

Notice of hearing.

To the father of Timothy Marlow, name unknown.

You are hereby given notice of hearing on the above styled and numbered case for the purpose of termination of parental rights in the district courtroom of the

Letters to the editor

Evangelist issues warning

Editor:

The Bible says: "It is appointed unto men to die, after this the judgement."

Momen vhmkvv eletv, momet mv erhoyanat ohfyccceckv este em mellvkhoyvte etvpomen.

Many people in this world had plans to do that at certain times, but suddenly death came and ended all. Humans are weak and in a few minutes, can die and open their eyes in eternity.

Either heaven or in hell, our physical death that ends life in this present world, but after the physical death then eternal life begins.

Don't wait for the hearse to take you to church. If you do, you will go regardless of the weather. You will go regardless of how your family feels. You will have beautiful flowers, but you will not be able to enjoy them.

Regardless of how good the Creek singing is, you will not enjoy it. Regardless of what the minister may say, it will do you no good. You will never be able to attend church again. There will be relatives and friends there but you will not worship with them. The minister had rather help you now than try to

please see LETTERS..., page 11

Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 24th day of March 1995, at 1:30 p.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain a ward of the Court and custody be continued in the children and family services administration program for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are hereby further informed that you have the right to be represented by counsel at this hearing.

(s) Patrick E. Moore, district judge

Legal notice

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 24, issue 3, March 1995

In the District Court of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, in the matter of Minor Creek Children, JV 92-31.

Notice of hearing.

To the father of Robert Jack Fixico, name unknown.

You are hereby given notice of hearing on the above styled and numbered case for the purpose of termination of parental rights in the district courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 24th day of March 1995, at 1:30 p.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain a ward of the Court and custody be continued in the children and family services administration program for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are further informed that you have the right to be represented by counsel at this hearing.

(s) Patrick E. Moore, district judge

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

James Wolfe, managing editor
Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff writer

Council fails override attempt, approves continuing budget ordinance

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council failed to override Principal Chief Bill Fife's veto of an appropriations bill at the Feb. 25 meeting.

The 36-member tribal legislature voted 23 to 12 to override, falling one vote short of the two-thirds majority necessary to override a veto.

The number of override votes exceeded the number of representatives who voted for NCA 95-02 the first time (Jan. 5). Sponsored by Okfuskee District representative Wynema Roberts, the bill appropriated \$600,000 from the tribe's settlement of the Indian Country U.S.A. lawsuit filed in the late 1980s.

The use of funds had been approved with the passage of NCA 94-61. That bill also established guidelines for funds. The vetoed legislation attempted to appropriate money for direct client social services.

Voting for the override were: **Wilbur Gouge, Sandy McIntosh, Thomas McIntosh, and Yahola Townsend, McIntosh Dist.; Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, and Frances Pease, Muskogee Dist.; Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, and Bruce Smith, Okfuskee Dist.; Jim Harjo, Charlie Litsey, Peggy Lyda, and David Nichols, Okmulgee Dist.; Perry Beaver, Steve Bruner, Irene Cleghorn, Jess Kelley, and Ed Moore, Tulsa Dist.; and Richard Berryhill and Barbara Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.**

Voting against the override were: **Duke Harjo, Leah Jack, Phyllis Warrington, and Earl Wheeler, Creek Dist.; Darrell Coachman, Tim Fife, Dwayne Lowe, and Thomas Yahola, Tukvptce Dist.; A.D. Ellis and Dave Lewis, Okmulgee Dist.; and Larry Bible and Earl King, Tulsa Dist.**

In other business, the Council:

— confirmed (33-1) Robert Hufft to the Muscogee Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board. Hufft, a tribal citizen, is a controller for International Chemical. He is a former tribal employee (1976 - 1979). Hufft's appointment fills a vacancy created when former member J.D. Colbert left to become the executive director for the Citizen Band Pottawatomie. Voting against confirmation was: **Gouge, McIntosh Dist. Speaker Bruner conducted the meeting and did not vote;**

— approved unanimously (33-0) a resolution (NCR 95-05) asking the U.S. government to appropriate \$58.4 million to fund the Indian Tribal Justice Act for fiscal year 1996. **Jackson, Okfuskee Dist., did not vote;**

— approved unanimously (32-0) a bill declaring the tribe's official position regarding actions of the Internal Revenue Service. The bill, NCA 95-13 is a response to the IRS's attempt to tax tribal gaming revenues. **Jackson and Roberts, Okfuskee Dist., did not vote;**

— approved unanimously (34-0) a continuing ordinance for access to the fiscal year 1994 tribal comprehensive budget. The bill (NCA 95-18) autho-



photo by Jim Wolfe

Several representatives gathered to witness Principal Chief Bill Fife (seated in center) sign into law the official naming of the Tukvptce District (formerly Hughes-Seminole). Seated from left to right are: Phyllis Warrington, Creek District; Fife; and Seond Speaker Thomas Yahola. Back row, from left to right are: Darrell Coachman, Tim Fife, and Dwayne Lowe, all of Tukvptce District; Duke Harjo, Creek District; and Ed Marshall, tribal town representative.

rizes budget expenditures with restrictions through March 31;

— failed to confirm (14-19-1) Richard Johnson as Muscogee Nation Lighthorse Administration Chief. The Okmulgee resident received 14 votes for confirmation (a simple majority is required for Council confirmation).

Voting to confirm were: **Jack, Creek Dist.; Jackson, Johnson, and Roberts, Okfuskee Dist.; Hale, Lewis, and Lyda, Okmulgee Dist.; Beaver, Kelley, King, and Moore, Tulsa Dist.; and Berryhill and Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.**

Voting against confirmation were: **Harjo, Warrington, and Wheeler, Creek Dist.; Coachman, Fife, Lowe, and Yahola, Tukvptce Dist.; Gouge, S. McIntosh, T. McIntosh, and Townsend, McIntosh Dist.; Chupco and Coker, Muskogee Dist.; Smith, Okfuskee Dist.; Ellis, Harjo, Litsey, and Nichols, Okmulgee Dist.; and Bible, Tulsa Dist.**

Abstaining was **Pease, Muskogee Dist.;**

— approved unanimously (34-0) a bill (NCA 95-17) authorizing the Creek Nation Housing Authority to apply to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the construction of 300 new housing units; and

— approved (29-3) a bill appropriating \$27,308 to the Oklahoma City Muscogee Creek Association for the purchase of a community building. The bill (NCA 94-85) will payoff the balance due on the note for the property located at 534 S.E. 29th Street in Oklahoma City and reimburses the com-

munity for a \$10,000 down payment on the property.

Voting against the bill were: **Harjo and Jack, Creek Dist.; and Harjo, Okmulgee Dist.**

Pickering wins run-off election

OKMULGEE — McIntosh District voters returned Tommy Pickering to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council in a March 4 special election.

Pickering, of Eufaula, received 277 votes to best Frank Kamp, himself a former representative from Eufaula. The results were unofficial at press time.

Principal Chief Bill Fife called for the special election after the death of former McIntosh District representative Tommy Newton.

Pickering was first elected to the Council in 1988 and again in 1990. He lost a 1992 election to Yahola Townsend.

Pickering will take to the oath of office at the March 25 regular session in Okmulgee.

Pickering, his wife, Judith, and sons reside in Eufaula.



Pickering

Eufaula dormitory renovates facilities, image

by Debee Nichols, Indian Journal

EUFAULA — Construction on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Eufaula Dormitory is underway after receiving \$800,000 in grants from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Facilities Management Construction Center and the office of construction management since last April.

A 3000 square-foot gymnasium, with workout room with equipment, an arts and crafts room, dressing rooms for athletic events, and office areas should be finished in 60 days.

The dormitory received another \$100,000 for roof repairs and to improve the cafeteria. Another \$35,000 was granted for parking lot improvements. The grants were three years in obtaining.

"We're fortunate to have a good relationship with the BIA in Albuquerque, to have funds available," said Greg Anderson, dormitory administrator. "There are 187 schools competing for this money. There was a lot of work and negotiating involved."

Anderson sought the grants to improve the facilities after taking pictures of water damage and the deteriorating roof. Along with the photos, a list of priorities were submitted to the BIA. After that, Anderson began lobbying.

"We had a good presentation and things gel into place," Anderson said. "Everything turned out pretty good. We are even getting to do our own construction. The BIA usually picks the people to do the construction, but we get the money to do the work ourselves — that's rare."

Program briefs

Environmental youth program offered

OKMULGEE — Applications for the Native American Environmental Awareness Summer Youth Practicum are available from Muscogee Nation Tribal Affairs Director Woody Anderson.

Anderson is a member of the National Native American Fish and Wildlife Society Board of Directors, representing this region.

The program provides Indian students the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the management of natural resources, Anderson said.

The program provides an academic experience in a mountain youth camp environment. During the first week of the program, students spend their time at the American Indian Science and Engineering Society Environmental Youth Camp.

During the second week, plans include visits to reservations in Colorado or New Mexico, to experience model natural resource practices.

Interested Muscogee high school students are encouraged to apply. For an application, contact Anderson at (918) 756-8700, ext. 270 or write P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Applica-

Many other projects are planned but will not get underway until the summer when the 128 dormitory residents have gone home. Anderson anticipates seeking bids for the roof repairs in March as well as the extension to the parking lot.

The dormitory has 100,000 square feet of space in 18 acres. The facilities bring revenue to Eufaula through its 35-member staff and by using local businesses for equipment purchases, food, and supplies.

"It takes a lot [of money] to run the dorm and to keep it up takes a lot of money," Anderson said, "We are very proud of what we have here and what we contribute to the Eufaula community."

Anderson said he will add two more to this staff once the renovations are complete. One person will teach arts and crafts and the other will work in recreation.

The successful Foster Grandparents Program will continue.

The federally-funded program employs six elders to work with elementary students after school on academic trait tutoring and other projects. Good behavior and completing of details are rewarded by points which may then be used for pizza parties, outings to movies, or other

tions must be postmarked by April 5.

Election board updates cards

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Election Board is requesting that voters in the Tukvptce (formerly Hughes-Seminole) District contact its office to update registration. For more information, contact the election board office at (918) 756-8700, ext. 350 or write P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Okmulgee Head Start food bingo

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Head Start Okmulgee Center is having food bingo the third Saturday of the month at the center. A food sale begins at 6 p.m. with bingo beginning at 7 p.m. Cost is \$5. The center is located on the tribal capitol complex at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Contract health services relocate

OKMULGEE — Most of the contract health services staff has moved to the Okmulgee Indian Health Center, 1313 E. 20th St., Okmulgee.

The service administers payment for approved patient referrals made to outside providers by

privileges.

The dormitory is also improving its public relations. Anderson has appeared on local television shows to discuss the success of the dormitory.

"We have received calls from people all over Oklahoma commending us on how well we are doing and what good things we've got going," Anderson said. "I think a lot of people are just now becoming aware that we are here and the kinds of positive things we do for our youth."

tribal physicians. Inquiries regarding payment for approved contract health services can be directed to the office at (918) 758-2710.

Patients who receive emergency treatment from facilities other than Indian Health Service or Muscogee Nation providers must notify the contract health services within 72 hours at (918) 623-1424, ext. 342. Rosalee Marshall, and Sue Mobley, case manager will maintain an office in Okemah.

Tribe plans disaster training

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Second Chief Shelly Crow is coordinating tribal efforts for disaster response training.

Crow is facilitating for the American Red Cross who is providing the training. Presently, there are no official disaster or emergency response plans in place at the tribal capitol complex though there are some individuals with such expertise.

"In the event of a disaster, this training will be of great significance to our citizens and employees," Crow said. "This training will expedite services in time of need without delay and speed the post-disaster recovery."



submitted photo

The Eufaula Dormitory Gymnasium expansion in progress.

Muscogee collegians

Bacone student makes mission trip

MUSKOGEE — Muscogee citizen Marquette Harrison was part of a medical team that treated children in Antigua, Guatemala.

Harrison of Muskogee, is a freshman nursing student at Bacone College.

"I was well received as your ambassador," Harrison said. "I wish to give thanks to all the people who were in prayer for us and for their moral support. I especially want to thank [National Council representative] Frances Pease for all of her efforts and encouragement."



Harrison

Harrison also recognized the Muskogee Creek Indian Community and the executive board.

Bacone freshman designs card

MUSKOGEE — Bacone College President Dennis Tanner's Christmas cards featured artwork by Muscogee citizen Shane Turner.

Turner of Muskogee, is a freshman at Bacone. His work was one of seven considered for the card.

The 1994 Sequoyah High School graduate is the son of Dale Turner and Marquette Harrison, both of Muskogee.



Turner

Culture day at Northeastern

TAHLEQUAH — The Native American Student Association of Northeastern State University is hosting American Indian Culture Day March 29 at the University Center on campus. The day is part of the Indian symposium.

The agenda:

9 a.m. — registration

10 a.m. — intertribal culture, drug and alcohol prevention, Zack Morris

11 a.m. — cultural exchange: explanation of socail songs and dances

12:30 p.m. — cultural preservation, culture and traditions

1:30 p.m. — Indian orators, Dr. Carl Farinelli

1:30 p.m. — Indian life and the opposition of drugs, Johnny Red Eagle

7:30 p.m. — dance, traditional 49, Jake Chanate



photo by Gerald Wofford

Winners of the Muscogee Nation Johnson O'Malley Conference Poster Contest were presented with their awards by Principal Chief Bill Fife. Pictured from left to right are Muscogee citizens: Laura Wilson, Morris, fourth place; Josh Hooten, Eufaula, third place; Principal Chief Bill Fife; Dustin Hopkins (Cherokee), Oktaha, first place; and Ken Taryole, JOM program manager. The poster contest is held in conjunction with the annual JOM spring conference. Not pictured is Justin Garrett, Kellyville, second place.

Muscogee student achievements

John Crow IV

BERRYHILL — Berryhill High School junior John Crow IV was one of four Oklahoma students that attended the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington D.C.

Crow participated in mock congressional and Supreme Court hearings on subjects such as crime and prayer in school as well as visited historic sites.

He is a tribal citizen and a member of the wrestling team. Crow is the son of John and Shelly Crow of Berryhill.

Jessica Shipley

YARDEKA — Muscogee citizen Jessica Shipley has won first runner-up in the Red Ribbon Celebration essay contest for the 11 to 13 year old age division sponsored by the Oklahoma Federation of Parents.

Shipley and her parents have been invited to attend an awards ceremony hosted by Governor Frank Keating and Olympic medalist Shannon Miller.

Shipley is the daughter of James and Elizabeth Shipley.

Evan and Eric Checotah

LITTLE AXE — Muscogee citizens Evan and Eric Checotah have made the superintendent's honor roll at Little Axe Elementary School. Evan, a first grader was also named student of the quar-

ter by teachers and faculty.

Eric, a second grade student celebrated his ninth birthday Feb. 2.

Parents are Deloris Checotah of Norman and Daniel Checotah of Okmulgee. Maternal grandparents are Nancy Kaseca of Shawnee and Walter Kaseca of Norman. Paternal grandparents are Etta and Everette Checotah of Okmulgee. Paternal great grandmother is Elizabeth Starr of Okmulgee.

Shane Freeman

LYNCHBURG, Va. — Muscogee citizen Shane Freeman has been selected as a peer mediator for the 1994-95 academic year at Bedford Hills Elementary School. He is in fifth grade.

Peer mediators are selected on the basis of willingness to participate, leadership potential and respect for peers. Interpersonal conflicts are handled by peer mediators.

He is the son of Shannon Freeman of Lynchburg, Va. Grandparents are Hepsey Ray of Joplin, Mo. and Robert Freeman of Morris.



Freeman

Society briefs

Birth announcement

Jacob Howard Beaulieu Crofut

MINNEAPOLIS — Jacob Howard Beaulieu Crofut was born Jan. 11 to Lesli Beaulieu and Don Crofut.

He weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

He has a brother, Samuel D. B. Grandparents are Lu and Bill Crofut, Okmulgee, and Sally Milroy, Shakopee, Minn. His great-grandparents are: Clara Crofut, Mannford; and Pearl Blue, Morton, Minn.; and the late Nicey Jacobs, Salem.



Crofut

Birthdays

Polly Miller Homma

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She was born northwest of Okmulgee to Seborn and Effa Berryhill Miller on Feb. 18, 1900.

Homma is a member of the Wind Clan, Konkate Tribal Town, and Newtown United Methodist Church.



Homma

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Those attending were: Jamie Marshall; Codi and Jennifer Dale; Amanda Holland; Allison Birdsong; Brit-tany Tiger; and Michelle and Hully Tiger.

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Tiger

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The poem, "Judging," has earned him a semifinalist slot in the National Library of Poetry's 1994 North American Open Poetry Contest. The poem will be entered in the final competition to be judged this spring.

Cooper, 16, has been writing poetry since he was in the eighth grade. His first published poem was entitled "My Mother's Love." Dedicated to his mother — Diana — it was published in "Poetic Voices of America," a national hard-cover anthology published by Sparrowgrass Poetry Forum. "A Flower in the Wind" is to be published this summer in "Treasured Poems of America," another Sparrowgrass publication.

Cooper, a Depew High School honor student, is also a member of the International Society of Poets and Who's Who Among American High School students.

Chalakee, Jacobs wed at Newtown UMC.

OKMULGEE — Margie Chalakee and Barney Jacobs were united in marriage Nov. 26 at Newtown United Methodist Church.

Chalakee was given away by Jonah Fleener, her son. The maid-of-honor was Gina Fleener, daughter of the bride. The best man was John Josie, brother of the groom. The flower girl and ringbearer were Nikki and Corey Pickup Jr., niece and nephew of the bride. Ushers were Jeremy and Perry Jacobs, cousins of the groom.

Mrs. Jacobs is the daughter of the late Webster and Martha Chalakee. Mr. Jacobs is the son of Leona Josie.

Mrs. Jacobs is employed at Muscogee Nation Head Start. Mr. Jacobs is employed at J. and S. Plumbing. The couple have made their home in Okmulgee.



photo by Jim Wolfe

Tulsa Creek Indian Community Trading Post employees Dion Douglas and Greg Moore exhibit items available for purchase from the post showcase. The TCIC gift shop is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the smokeshop is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Both are located at 1614 E. 81st Street, in Tulsa, just north of the Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo at 81st Street and Riverside Drive.

Citizen selected Valentine's Day queen

WEWOKA — Tiesha Renee Henneha was selected Seminole Nation Head Start Valentine's Day Queen.

The selection of queen was based on the please see SOCIETY..., page 11

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HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — Following a Dec. 9 graduation from Marine boot camp, Muscogee citizen Jason T. Davis currently is stationed in Huntsville for extensive training.

The 19-year-old Marine is the son of Ray and Christie Davis of Puget Island, Wash. and Ethel Davis of Covina, Calif.



Davis

Indian Country briefs

Indigenous games meeting set

OKMULGEE — The Oklahoma Indigenous Games Association Northeast Region meeting will begin at 4 p.m., March 15 at the Bureau of Indian Affairs Conference Room at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss athlete selection criteria, sport event committees, regional tryouts, dates, and possible fund-raisers.

North American Indigenous Games Association began in 1977. The games are an amateur sporting event for Indian youth throughout the hemisphere.

The organization's mission is to promote the athletic and cultural talents of American Indians, develop leadership skills, health, and individual growth, produce an international forum for our youth to accept responsibility for a full and meaningful life, and to continue development of the games.

This is the first year Oklahoma will be represented in the national games. Several tribes in Oklahoma are working together organizing and promoting activities to prepare Indian youth for the games.

Events include basketball, volleyball, track and field. Tryouts for the Oklahoma team will begin in late July. Participants must be Indian and 13 and over.

Anyone wanting to volunteer his or her service for the events or interested in the indigenous games should contact Irene Culley, Muscogee Nation Child Abuse Prevention Education counselor at 1 (800) 521-5432 or (918) 756-2112.

Sovereignty symposium set

TULSA — The Eighth Annual Sovereignty Symposium will be June 5 through 8 at The Doubletree Hotel at Warren Place.

Sponsored by the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission, the state Supreme Court, and The Sovereignty Symposium, Inc., the symposium will feature discussions of: employment and basic Indian law; international concerns of indigenous people; gaming; taxation; and others.

For more information, contact Julie Rorie at (405) 521-4978 or write 1915 N. Stiles, Suite 305, Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

Keeper of the Plains call for artists

ENID — The Keeper of the Plains Celebration is seeking artists specializing in Indian art and trade goods to participate in the fine art show April 28 through 30.

Booth space is limited and is available on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, call Edna Holden at (405) 233-6300.

Grand Moccasin Festival

MUSKOGEE — The Murrow Indian Children's Home will host its second Grand Moccasin Festival, April 21 and 22, just west of the Bacone College campus.

This year's festival will feature 20 hot air balloons. Other activities include a fine art show, an Indian Territory- old West style shoot-out, Indian foods, stick ball games, softball tournaments, amusement rides, music and more.

All proceeds benefit the Murrow Indian Children's Home, residential child care facility celebrating over 100 years of mission service to Indian children.

For more information, contact Joan Brown or Pattie Wright at (918) 682-2586.

Murrow home alumni reunion

MUSKOGEE — An all-school reunion for Murrow Indian Children's Home alumni will be April 22 at the home located just west of the Bacone College Campus.

Anyone who resided at or worked for the Murrow Indian Children's Home is invited to the reunion. Dinner will be served that evening. For more information, contact Annetta Custer at (405) 277-3971.

Tulsa arts council has grants

TULSA — The Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa will award four \$1,000 grants, one each in literary arts, performing arts, visual arts, and the humanities. Jingle Feldman grants may be used to help grantees create new artistic or scholarly works or complete works in progress.

Artists and scholars who have lived in the Tulsa metropolitan area for at least one year are eligible. Proposed projects should begin after July 1. Application deadline is April 1.

For applications, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Arts and Humanities Council, 2210 S. Main, Tulsa, OK 74114. Applications are also available at the above address weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For additional information, call (918) 584-3333.

Ahalaya project assists Indians

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Ahalaya Project provides case management services to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infected American Indians. The project endeavors to increase life expectancy and quality of life for its HIV-positive clients.

"HIV-AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) poses a serious threat to the well-being (405) 277-3971.

of [Indian] populations," said Betty Duran, director of client services for the National Native American AIDS Prevention Center. "Reported AIDS cases of American Indians and Alaska Natives increased 63 percent from 1992 to 1993."

Duran said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, reported a cumulative statewide total of 225 Indians with HIV or AIDS.

"We hope to improve the lives of those native people who are already infected and prevent the spread and decrease the impact of HIV/AIDS on our small and diminishing communities."

To become a client of the Ahalaya Project, one must be HIV-positive and verify Indian ethnicity. The project currently provides services to more than 50 men and women between the ages of 22 and 51, representing 20 tribes in four different states. All client-identifying information is kept confidential.

In addition to the case management services, the Ahalaya Project provides free, confidential HIV antibody testing and maintains a toll-free number for clients and those seeking information. The number, 1 (800) 358-6080, is accessible only in Oklahoma.

The Ahalaya Project is a nonprofit organization with offices in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Ahalaya is a Choctaw word meaning "to care for deeply." The project is a unit of the NNAAPC.

Low income workers tax information

OKLAHOMA CITY — More low and middle income Oklahomans will qualify for federal tax credits that range from \$306 up to \$2,528 under this year's earned income tax credit provisions.

The earned income tax credit has been expanded to include more taxpayers by raising the amount of income that can be earned and not requiring workers to have children to qualify.

Mike Snyder, of Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc., said many low income and moderate income workers including those who normally aren't required to file should file to take advantage of this tax break.

To qualify, a taxpayer's adjusted gross income must be \$9,000 or less if childless, up to \$23,775 with one child and up to \$25,296 for more than one child. Earned income includes all salaries, wages, and employer compensation.

Snyder recommends taxpayers who may qualify for the tax credit but do not know how to apply, should contact the Internal Revenue Service at 1(800) 829-1040 or the Volunteers In Tax Program at (405) 232-8482 or (405) 297-4125.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc., is a nonprofit law firm that provides free civil legal services to low income and elderly Indians in Oklahoma.

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Davis

Muscogee Nation obituaries

FREDERICK B. DEER

LITTLE QUARSARTY — Funeral services for Frederick B. Deer were held at Little Quarsarty Baptist Church.

Deer, 61, died at Cobre Valley Community Hospital, Miami, Ariz.

He was born May 5, 1933 in Wewoka.

A native of Wewoka, Deer had lived in Arizona for the past 31 years. He served in both the U.S. Marines and Army and was a veteran of the Korean conflict.

He had worked as a health administrator in several hospitals throughout Arizona prior to his retirement.

Survivors include: his wife, Nona of Globe; one son, Greg of Phoenix, Ariz.; two brothers, Alfred Deer Jr. of Wewoka and Ethan Deer of Seminole; and two sisters, Juanita Yahola of Okemah and Betty Shannon of Albuquerque, N.M.

Interment was in Little Quarsarty Church Cemetery.

WILCIE HARJO

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Wilcie Harjo were held Dec. 10 at Williamson Funeral Chapel with Rev. Archie Warren officiating.

Harjo was born Aug. 13, 1919 in Wetumka to William and Etta Addison Harjo. He died Dec. 8 at the Veterans Administration hospital in Muskogee.

He attended Lone Star Public School. He enlisted in the army in 1940 and served until 1945. Harjo was married to Elizabeth Wynah Lee in 1947 in Weleetka. He lived in the Henryetta area most of his life and was a member of the Disabled American Veterans.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; and wife.

Survivors include: a brother, Bobby Harjo, Weleetka; and a sister, Anna Belle Wallace, Wetumka; stepchildren, Margie Jo Harjo, Weleetka, Joe Fisher, Henryetta, and Arthur Fisher, Muskogee; several nieces; nephews; other relatives; and friends.

Interment was in the Harjo Family Cemetery.

NORMAN C. MILLER

MOUNDS — Funeral services for Norman C. "Shine" Miller were held at Snake Creek Baptist Church with Rev. George Doyle officiating.

Miller died Jan. 22 in Tulsa. He was born Dec. 5, 1914 in Okmulgee County to Thomas and Lucinda Tiger Miller.

Miller lived in the Mounds area all of his life. On June 6, 1942, he joined the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged on Jan. 22, 1945.

Miller was a retired farmer who loved the outdoors and was very proud of his Indian heritage. He was a member of Snake Creek Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Anna L. Miller, on Jan. 31, 1990.

Survivors include: three sons, Jimmy Miller of Alaska, Charles Miller of Rockville, Mo., and Richard Miller of Mounds; three daughters, Norma Hale of Mounds, Hattie Burley of Carrollton, Texas, and Mary Miller of Arlington, Va.; three brothers, Joseph Miller of Vern, Ark., Harold Miller of Mounds, and Frank Miller of Haskell; one sister, Agnes Carr of Lawton; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Pallbearers were: Willie Hale; Richard Millers; Jim Burley; Ted Tiger; Mekko Miller; Hvtle Miller; Charles Miller; and David Deere.

Honorary pallbearers were: Andy Hale; Frank Miller; Joe Miller; Harold Miller; Raymond Jarvis; Bill Moody; and Jimmie Miller.

Burial was in Snake Creek Church Cemetery.

GLADYS BLAND McHENRY

BROKEN ARROW — Funeral services for Gladys Bland McHenry were held Jan. 16 at Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church with Rev. David Wilde officiating.

Wake services were held Jan. 15 with Rev. David Long Jr. officiating.

McHenry was an 81-year-old full-blood Muscogee. She was very proud of her lineage, being the great-granddaughter of Kussetah Mekko, who came to Indian Territory during the removal, great-granddaughter of James Randall, and great-granddaughter of Ben B. Haikey, founder of Haikey Chapel and for whom Haikey Creek Park is named after. Haikey was very proud of her Indian heritage and gave each of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren a Muscogee name.

She was born at Schulter on March 10, 1913 to Louise David and Jeanetta Haikey Bland. She attended Euchee Mission and Chilocco Boarding School. She married Lewis Tuskonah McHenry, had six children, and was a loving mother and wife. She was always ready to tease, joke, and laugh — which endeared her to a score of nephews and nieces.

She died Jan. 12 — surrounded by family and prayers — after a brief illness at Claremore Indian Health Center.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband; a son, Lewis Knotchie McHenry; two grandchildren; two sisters, Beatrice Barok, and Lillie Mae Freeman; and two brothers, Winifred Bland and Amos Beaver.

She is survived by: sons and daughters-in-law,

Ted and Lydia McHenry, Tulsa, J.D. and Joyce McHenry, Broken Arrow; daughters and sons-in-law, Kay and Louis Hanna, Tulsa, and Carol and Ron Williams, Beggs; daughter, Carla McHenry, Tulsa; 25 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; one brother, Leo G. Bland, Glenpool; and a host of loving relatives.

Memorial donations may be sent to Haikey Chapel treasurer John D. Johnson at: P.O. Box 840, Jenks, OK 74037.

MARY LOUISE ROBISON

GREENLEAF — Funeral services for Mary Louise Robison were held Feb. 4 at Greenleaf Baptist Church with Revs. Alvin Deer and John Lowe officiating.

Robison died Feb. 1. She was born Aug. 13, 1917 to Benjamin and Bettie Deer Robison in Okfuskee County.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, Younger Carpitcher; two brothers, Red Posey, and Tom Barnett; two daughters, Jewel Berryhill and Josphine Schroeder; and one granddaughter, Kenna Eloise Berryhill.

Survivors include: six daughters, Bettie J. Jones of Seminole, Josephine Johnson of Okemah, Maybeline Crocker of White River, Ariz., Rose Hartsfield of Jefferson City, Mo., Pearlie May Mills of Bristow, Benard Josay of Okemah, Consuelo Jean Robison of Jefferson City; 20 grandchildren; 19 great grandchildren; and a host of relatives; and friends.

AILEEN MARIE ROGERS

OAKHURST — Funeral services for Aileen Marie Rogers were held at Indian Fellowship Baptist Church with Revs. Bill Alexander and Jim Anderson officiating.

Rogers was born Aug. 7, 1934. She died Jan. 27 at the home of her daughter, Linda Sue Rogers Naylor, in Sapulpa.

Rogers was a nurse and a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, Joseph P. Rogers; a son, William Lincoln Rogers; and two grandsons, Tommy Joe and Scott Derek; her parents, Percy Harrell and Antionetta Marie Litka Harrell Rogers.

She is survived by: a son, Joseph Thomas Rogers, Glenpool; daughters, Linda Naylor, Sapulpa, Julia Antionetta Jessie, DeQueen, Ark., Glenda Irene Rogers, Sapulpa; brothers, Buster Harrell, Springdale, Ark., Roy Don and Clifford Harrell, Tulsa; Clarence A. Harrell, Florida; sisters, Mary Alice Harrell, Tulsa, Janet Streezal, Tulsa, Francis Teash, Dallas, Texas, and Marilyn Madelyne Rorick, Yukon; twelve grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

Muscogee Nation obituaries

continued from page 9

WINNIE SCOTT

ARTUSSEE — Funeral services for Winnie Scott were held Jan. 21 at Artussee Baptist Church with Rev. Ames Bean officiating.

Scott died Jan. 19 at Fountain View Manor Nursing Home.

She was born Nov. 22, 1916 at Eufaula to Tom and Katie Dorsey Phillips. She was married to Samuel Scott. She was a cook at the O.K. Cafe and had lived in Hanna most of her life. She was a member of Artussee Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; and her husband.

Survivors include: two sons, Sammie Scott, Tulsa, and Joseph Scott, Chicago, Ill.; one brother, Willie Phillips, Eufaula; a dear friend, Willie Jackson; and a host of nieces, nephews; and friends.

Interment was at Artussee Church Cemetery.

FRANK SONNY SIMMER

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Frank Sonny Simmer were held Feb. 10 at Smith Funeral Chapel with Rev. Fred. Lindsey officiating. He died Feb. 7 at St. Francis Hospital, Tulsa. He was born May 24, 1932 in Okemah.

He was a veteran of the Korean War, U.S. Army. He was a painter by trade.

Survivors include: a son, Charlie Simmer, Omaha, Neb.; two daughters, Cathy Kluthe and Judy Johnson, both of Omaha; three sisters, Helen Coon, Sapulpa, Florina Bear, Okemah,

and Edith Harjo, Cromwell; and eight grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Billy Hill; Tobby Hill; Steve Hummingbird; J.D. Hill; Mike Coon; and Robert Coffey.

Interment was in Ft. Gibson National Cemetery.

PAHVEE CEPVNUCE WILSON WILLIAMS

WILSON — Graveside services for Pahvee Cepvnuce Wilson Williams were held Feb. 27 at the Berryhill Family Cemetery with Comanche traditional elder Ray Niedo and Rev. Gene Wilson officiating.

A memorial service followed at Honey Creek United Methodist Church with Revs. Jerry Byrd, Bunnie Hill, Wilson, and Wesley Berry officiating.

Williams, infant son of Nahmee Wilson and Shawn Williams, was born and died on Feb. 23 in Okmulgee.

He was preceded in death by: grandparents, Bertha and Roe Kaharahrah; great-grandmother, Blanche Berryhill; and great-grandparents, Alice and Irvin Williams.

Surviving relatives include: his parents; maternal grandparents, Alicia and Gene Wilson; great-grandmother, Edna Sampson; paternal grandparents, Rita and Barton Williams; and great-grandfather, Thomas Berryhill.

Pallbearers were: Julian Watson; Michael Berryhill; Carl Misener; and Billy Komahcheet.

Gratitude

We would like to extend our appreciation to everyone that offered donations and flowers during the loss of our loved one.

The Aileen Rogers Family

We would like to express our appreciation and thanks to all family, friends, former students, and colleagues as we said farewell to our loved one.

Your presence, whether by card, phone, letter, or in person touched our hearts during this difficult time.

The Thomas Sullivan Sr. Family

We would like to express our gratitude to all who offered prayer, visited, cooked, and/or sent flowers, during the loss of our baby.

We extend special thanks to the following: Wilbur and Cheryl Gouge; Lewis Taylor Jr.; Ray Niedo; Revs. Bunnie Hill, Wesley Berry, Jerry and Suziko Byrd; Frank Billy; Peggy Chalakee; Mary Sunny; Pearl Thomas; Honey Creek United Methodist Church members; Muscogee Nation Lighthouse Administration; Thomas, Janice, and Michael Berryhill; Julian Watson; Mark Taylor; Clemma Luellen; Johnnie Hammontree; Jewel Berry; Mary Ann Kane; Grace Bunner; Betsy Taryole; Joyce and Melinda Thompson, Shelly Crow and Sherry Miller.1.

Mvto.

The Pahvee Wilson Williams Family

Tribal health system to sponsor diabetes camp

OKEMAH — The Muscogee Nation's 1995 Diabetes Family Leadership Camp — *Camp Cym Pulke* — will be held April 24 through 26 at St. Crispin's near Wewoka.

The three-day retreat offers patients with diabetes and their families a chance to learn how to live well with diabetes. Campers learn about how the disease works and how lifestyle changes can prevent or postpone its dangerous side affects. The program also promotes leadership.

Each year, diabetes is the cause of more than 150,000 deaths in America each year. Up to 12,000 people each year lose their sight because of diabetes. In 1987, there were more than 56,000 leg and foot amputations among people with diabetes living in the United States. (Statistics from the American Diabetes Association.)

"People with diabetes have to assume leadership of their own health to live successfully with the disease," said Karra D. Sparks, camp coordinator and registered dietitian. "The camps are educational and fun. Ask anyone who has gone."

If you would like to be one of this year's campers, or would like to know more about the camp activities, contact:

- Sparks at Creek Nation Community Hospital, (918) 623-1424;
- community health representatives at 1 (800) 398-5379 or (918) 756-1941;
- public health nurse, Eufaula clinic at (918) 689-2547;
- public health nurse, Okemah clinic at (918) 623-0555; or
- public health nurse, Sapulpa clinic at (918) 224-9310.

Osceola play to run in Tulsa

TULSA — The Oklahoma Indian Theatre and Dance Company will present the play "Black Drink Singer" March 17, 18, and 19 at the A.D.A.M.S Theatre, located at 15th and Delaware.

The play, coauthored by Tulsan Clark Frayser and George Phelps is the story of Osceola, a Muscogee mixed blood who served as a Seminole war chief. "Black Drink Singer" presents the story of Osceola's captivity through the persona of Dr. Frederick Weedon, the white physician who attended to Osceola.

The play will be directed by Muscogee citizen Bob Hicks. Hicks is a graduate of the Conservatory Program of the American Film Institute for Advanced Film Studies in Los Angeles.

He received national acclaim for his work "Return of the Country."

The performance begins at 8 p.m., March 17 and 18 and at 2 p.m., March 19. For more information, call (918) 245-3944.

Diabetes association sponsors legislative day at state capitol

OKLAHOMA CITY — All people affected by diabetes, including relatives and friends of those with diabetes, are invited to visit their Oklahoma state legislators at the state capitol building March 21.

The event is being coordinated by the American Diabetes Association Oklahoma City Regional Office.

The group's interest is in a number of areas including insurance coverage and diabetes education.

The legislative day is also an opportunity to lobby for government financial programs for assisting the indigent who have diabetes.

Diabetes is a devastating disease for which there is no cure. Both forms of the disease, types I and II, can lead to heart disease, kidney disease, blindness, amputation, and premature death.

In 1921, the discovery of insulin brought new hope to millions and continued research and education has made the disease manageable.

The ADA maintains that recent breakthroughs can improve an individual's chances for a long, healthy life. The key is early diagnosis and control of the disease.

The Muscogee Nation health system offers numerous programs and services related to diabetes.

The Eufaula, Okemah, and Sapulpa health clinics each have a designated time for diabetic treatment and diagnosis. At Sapulpa, a diabetic foot clinic is held regularly, but appointments are necessary.

The community health representatives have begun diabetic support groups in area communities. There are other programs and services available.

For more information, contact any of the following:

- American Diabetes Association — 1 (800) 259-6551 or 1 (800) 259-6552;
 - tribal health administration — (918) 756-4333;
 - Eufaula clinic — (918) 689-2547;
 - Okemah clinic — (918) 623-0555;
 - Sapulpa clinic — (918) 224-9310;
- and
- community health representatives — (918) 756-1941 or 1 (800) 398-5379.

Society briefs

continued from page 6

amount of pennies students collected for the program's activity fund. Henneha collected \$63.

She is the daughter of Serena Henneha of Seminole and the granddaughter of Jimmy and Nancy Carbitcher of Bowlegs. Henneha's family would like to thank all who contributed to the collections of her and Kristy Hill.

Bristow community slates art show

BRISTOW — Bristow Indian Community has scheduled its spring arts and crafts show and sale for May 6 and 7.

The juried show consists of adult and youth — ages 16 and under — categories. Awards will be presented in both fine arts and crafts.

For more information, contact Judy Riley at (918) 367-2249 between 9 a.m. and noon, or Gary Deeringwater at (918) 367-3788 between 5 and 8 p.m.

Okfuskee community trail ride

OKFUSKEE — Okfuskee Indian Community will hold a trail ride in April as well as many different kinds of drawings and door prizes. This trail ride is for any ages, male or female, but you must have your own horse.

Concessions will be available and the community will serve lunch. Those interested in participating are asked to notify the community to allow for event planning. The ride will be directed by Simmer Hicks and Harry Douglas.

For more information, or to confirm participation, contact Annie Hicks at (918) 623-1963 or Sharon Hicks at (918) 756-1941.

Citizen named coach of the year

WILSON — Muscogee citizen Bruce Dougals has been named Crossroads Conference High School Girls Basketball Coach of the Year for the 1994-95 season.

Douglas, in his first year of coaching the Midway High School girls basketball team, led the team to an 8 and 2 conference record and a 19-7 record overall.

Douglas, 27, earned his bachelor's degree from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah and is a graduate of Mason High School where he was an Oklahoma All-State selection in both basketball and baseball.

Douglas is the son of Harry and Geneva Douglas of Mason. He and his wife Missy, reside in Eufaula with their three children.

Crow column

continued from page 2

Good leaders will aim high, striving for those things that will make a difference rather than settle for the safe path of mediocrity.

The consequences for not adequately preparing the people for action is their failure to accomplish those things that are expected from them.

There are many other aspects of leadership that could be discussed, but I am limited by space and time. I do believe that we need to expect more from our leaders as well as from ourselves.

However, if it were easy to be a leader, everyone would be one.

Letters to the editor

continued from page 2

console your loved ones if you die without God.

So make it your choice to go to church while you have a choice. God bless you.

Heromkvt omvlkatskan ece'pakvkekvs emen.

Rev. Alex Lowe, Claremore

Reader thanks employee

Editor:

I am writing to express my thanks to George Cosar for his presentation at Sequoyah High School. This is the second year that he has presented a drug and alcohol program to my life skills classes with much success. His direct style impressed my students. His knowledge of tradition and his understanding of adolescent pressures to drink gave him the credibility that allowed my students to seriously listen. I appreciated his help and hope that he can speak to my students next year.

Rachel Green, Sequoyah High School, Tahlequah

Editor's note: Cosar is coordinator of the Muscogee Nation Children and Family Services Child Abuse Prevention Education program.

21st Annual
Creek Nation
Festival & Rodeo
June 16, 17, and 18
Okmulgee, Oklahoma

Kansas Senate to consider Opothle Yahola resolution next

continued from page 1

"I am proud of Opothle Yahola, of his courage and sacrifice and of his love for his people. And today, I am proud to honor him, to participate in activities that will restore the good name of Opothle Yahola to the pages of Kansas history.

"On this day, may his descendants and all the people of the Muscogee Indian Nation reclaim Opothle Yahola's vision of a bright future in which all the people of America live in harmony."

The proclamation was signed March 3.

Tribal educators conference March 19 in Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Tribal Education Contractor's Association Conference will be held March 19 through the 22 at the Medallion Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City.

The conference is being hosted by the Oklahoma Indian Higher Education Contractor's Association. The TECA is a national organization formed from the Oklahoma organization.

For more information, contact: Turner Bear at (918) 456-0671; Ozzie Red Elk at (405) 492-4988; JoAnn O'Bregon at (405) 269-2552; or Chanenna Davis at (918) 756-8700.

Muscogee citizen meets Cabinet secretary



submitted photo
Melissa Deeringwater was one of 13 entrants to have her artwork selected to appear in a calendar for American Indian youth. The contest was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Deeringwater travelled to Washington D.C. where she was presented a certificate of achievement by HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros (right in photo). Deeringwater is the 15-year-old daughter of Melinda Deeringwater of Morris.

Indian elders financial information, legal assistance available

Social Security information

PUEBLO, Colo. — A new booklet from the Social Security Administration — "Social Security...What Every Woman Should Know," is now available.

The booklet deals with the issues of related to name changes because of marriage, divorce, or other reasons.

It is the responsibility of the individual to be certain the Social Security record shows your correct name. Should one choose to change his or her name, it can be reported on a special form available at any Social Security office.

One must also show proof of identity under both the old name and the new name. Otherwise, earnings may not be properly recorded and you may not get all of the Social Security credit you're entitled to. If you choose to have your employer keep your maiden name on all records after marriage, you don't have to do anything.

Widows ordinarily lose their widows' benefits when they remarry. But, benefits to a widow (or widower) who remarries at 60 or older, or at 50 if disabled, can continue without any reduction.

To order a free copy of "Social Security...What Every Woman Should Know," write: Consumer Information Center, Dept. 526B, Pueblo, CO 81009.

Property, sales taxes refunds available

OKLAHOMA CITY — Although many elderly will not have to file income tax returns, some should file claims for tax relief.

Stephanie Brus, an attorney with Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc., said low income senior and disabled heads of households may be cheating themselves if they do not request a refund.

For each calendar year, any person 65 or older or totally disabled and the head of the household, and a resident of Oklahoma during the entire preceding year, whose gross household income is \$10,000 or less, may file a claim for a refund of the property taxes paid on their home for the preceding year. Many people are eligible for the property tax refunds, but don't receive them because they don't apply, Brus said.

Claims for property tax refunds must be filed no later than June 30, for taxes paid in 1994.

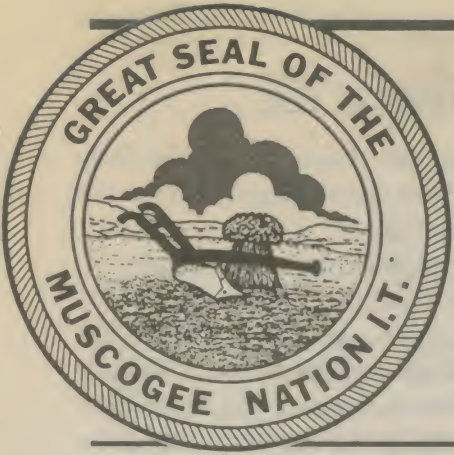
Persons who must file income tax returns should file for the property tax credit with their returns.

Proof of age, disability (if applicable), amount of property taxes paid, and the gross household income and the source(s) of that income must be furnished for every person filing for a refund.

Oklahoma Tax Commission Form 538-H can be obtained from county tax assessors' offices, the Oklahoma Tax Commission, or the Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc.

Sales tax relief is also available to households whose gross annual income did not exceed \$12,000 in 1994. The person applying for the refund of credit must have been a resident of Oklahoma during the entire year. Claims must be filed with the Oklahoma Tax Commission Form 538-S no later than June 30 for sales tax paid in 1994. This form can be obtained by calling the tax commission toll-free number — 1 (800) 522-8165.

Indian elders who need help filing either the property tax refund or the sales tax refund can contact OILS toll-free at 1 (800) 568-1497.



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April 1995, 8 Pages

Chief hosts tribal leaders summit

by Principal Chief Bill Fife

We recently held our annual traditional tribal leaders summit which was attended by our ceremonial ground chiefs and speakers. These meetings are important because we come together to exchange ideas and discuss what needs to be done today to preserve our culture and traditions.

It is also important because our ceremonial leaders are a direct link to Muscogee culture and history, to our fathers and grandfathers, to our political as well as social systems.

Despite over 200 years of U.S. Indian policy aimed at destroying Indian cultures, traditional Muscogee people have maintained a distinct national identity. Through their oral traditions, they continue to remind us of who we are as a people. A modern tribal government needs to have an awareness of traditional culture.

We have all had the benefit of grandparents and parents — the value of a grandparent is to provide counsel, to provide us with information that forms the foundation of our identity.

These traditional leaders are our tribal elders and we should seek their counsel as we address these most difficult issues which confront us as a government and as a people.

We must look at the history of tribal

town community development and self-sufficiency as models for future program design as we move into the new century.

As a tribal leader, I realize the many elements which must be brought forth to enhance and strengthen our tribal government.

Those elements, culture, government, land, economy, and services are all incorporated in our long-range plan. Our future as a nation is dependent upon our understanding of our traditional history.

One of the key issues is preserving culture — to maintain the traditions through ceremonial grounds. Today, most of our grounds are on lands which are leased or rented with no guarantee of continuance. We need to work together to ensure our grounds are maintained and that necessary land is secured.

It's important for all of us, especially our young people, to learn our history, our language, and culture. We have lost our lands in the southeast, but the one thing we still possess is our culture. Our traditional people have brought that forward. They brought the fire and reestablished our grounds.

In our development of Muscogee government we must draw on all of our resources. Our best resource is Muscogee people, who have much to offer to determine a vision for the future of our nation.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Traditional dancer and Muscogee tribal member John Haney, 12, is amused by Okmulgee Head Start student Alan Hunter, 4. The Okmulgee center, in its study of different peoples, recently emphasized Indian culture.

1995-96 Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation contestants sought for June pageant

OKMULGEE — The Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Pageant officially will kick-off the 21st Annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo on June 15.

The pageant committee is currently planning for the event and is encouraging interested, young, Creek ladies to apply.

Applicants must:

- be at least one-quarter blood enrolled Muscogee;
- be between the ages of 16 and 21 on the date of the pageant;
- never have been married or have a child;
- not have cohabitated before or during reign;
- live within Muscogee Nation tribal bound-



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Chickasaw Junior Miss Gwen Johnson and Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Corina Beth Lowe make acquaintance at the 11th Annual JOM conference as Junior Miss Choctaw Nation Natalie Jefferson observes.

aries;

- submit three letters of recommendation;
- submit a 500-word essay on why they are seeking the title; and
- attend an orientation workshop on Muscogee government and culture.

The application deadline is June 3. Applications may be obtained from committee chair Rita Williams at the old Oakdale School, located south of Okmulgee, just off U.S. Highway 75. She may also be contacted by calling (918) 756-0319, work, or (918) 652-7500, home, or writing: Attn. Rita Williams, Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Pageant Committee, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Second Chief Crow discusses termination legislation

by Second Chief Shelly Crow

As Muscogee citizens, we are greatly concerned that our great leaders in Washington D.C. see fit to attempt to control the federal budget deficit on the backs of Indians. Though they have created the deficit, these same people now want to cut Indian programs — many promised through treaty — budgets.

Specific U.S. House of Representatives actions will affect the agencies that oversee federal funding to our nation.

- Operation of Indian programs — Assistant Secretary of the Interior Ada Deer said House Resolution 1158 would cut \$4.05 million from this budget component. This is the largest Bureau of Indian Affairs account and would be 2.7 percent less than the fiscal year 1995 budget.

- Special tribal court programs — As of February 1995, \$1.46 million remained unobligated. The rescission will adversely impact those tribes which are developing tribal judiciaries or newly created judiciaries, and which have not received special tribal court funds. The purpose of the grants is to improve the capabilities of Indian tribes to manage and administer justice at a level which will insure the expeditious and impartial adjudication of violations of tribal law and resolution of civil disputes. The rescission will also preclude the BIA from executing a \$400,000 contract with a nonfederal entity to conduct a survey of the conditions of tribal judiciaries and Courts of Indian Offenses, as mandated by the Indian Tribal Justice

Act, P.L. 103-176. It is very apparent that these grants would assist in training for improving case management, legal research capabilities and to support training of tribal court clerks and judges.

We at Creek Nation realize that our judicial system, attorney general, and lighthouse departments enhance the federal and state agencies that cannot by law, knowledge, or manpower, be able to enforce the law on tribal lands.

- Construction programs are backlogged more than \$600 million and another \$2 million cutback is being considered.

- Proposed welfare reform could cause a break in the government-to-government relationship. Tribal governments may be bypassed if federal funds are delivered to states in the form of block grants.

- Education program cutbacks — proposals affecting: Indian children programs, \$2 million; school grants, \$45 million; impact aid, \$16 million; vocational and adult education, \$34 million.

The Muscogee Nation has an impact on more than 10,000 children of all tribal affiliations and ages. This reduction will severely hurt rural schools in low economic areas that now receive block grants and impact aid. It is a blow against education and economic opportunity.

One mistaken belief is that poverty can be cured by economic development alone. Even at the zenith of the 1980 economic boom, Oklahoma had 394,000 people living below the poverty line. The poorest fami-

lies in Oklahoma are those headed by women. Only half of Oklahoma's poor are working-age adults; the rest are children and elders.

If you want to cure poverty, you have to start by curing ignorance.

- Health and human services — a \$1.3 billion cut for health resources and administration for children and families. Also anticipated are cuts to the commission corps (Indian Health Service) that will reduce even further the number of physicians, nurses, and health care providers that are providing direct client services.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has always been a target anytime a budget reduction is requested by health and human services. Any additional reduction in LIHEAP funding for FY '96 will require diminished levels of service in our heating assistance program and would be devastating to this segment of our tribal population — a segment already faced with a multitude of survival barriers.

- Labor — more than \$350 million will be cut from job training programs. Once again the Indian people will be forced to remain poor on the reservations where health care is available or leave their families, culture, and traditions to seek training and employment in the cities. Ironically, the urban areas have a high poverty rate therefore they are placed in the same position of poverty.

- Other program cuts include those that could affect the preservation of our culture and language. What better way to continue the destruction of our Indian nations by eliminating funding for bilingual societies and culture?

- The impact of BIA Business Enterprise Development — please see CROW..., page 8

Letters to the editor

Council member explains legislation

Editor:

I am writing this letter hoping all or most of our tribal citizens will read it.

When I was elected for this position on the National Council, I made a promise to the people that I would act in their behalf. I am now in my fourth year as a representative and I am disappointed in the way our tribal leaders have forgotten who has elected us.

The best way we can help our people is to draft legislation directing the administration to provide more services to our tribal citizens.

Because the fiscal year 1995 budget provided less funds for direct client services to our people, I wrote a bill that would take 20 percent of a lawsuit settlement that had been reached by the Muscogee Nation and Indian Country U.S.A. That settlement was approximately \$5.7 million.

I asked for approximately \$1.2 million with the balance returned into the permanent funds account for the tribe.

Well, it was vetoed by Principal Chief Bill Fife who claimed the Council hasn't the right to direct funds to our people.

Isn't that our job — to look out for citizens?

The veto was overridden with only one representative voting no (Tukvpytce District representative Tim Fife).

I then wrote a bill asking for \$600,000 to be divided as follows:

- \$30,000 for dentures;
- \$30,000 for eyeglasses for all ages;

- \$100,000 for school clothing;
- \$100,000 for energy assistance; and
- \$340,000 for emergency home repair.

This too, was vetoed by Chief Fife. I then went for an override that fell short because one-third of the National Council members agreed with Chief Fife that we should have guidelines for tribal monies.

My argument is that we are discriminating against our own people because all Creek and Yuchi citizens are entitled to tribal funds.

It should not matter how old you are, where you live or how much money you make — that is the way it is written in the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The Creek District representatives members said their constituents want guidelines also. Some that voted no on the override have been on the Council for many years and still don't know there should be no guidelines on tribal monies.

I also wrote a bill that showed proof that Ed Mouss — director of the health administration — was operating with a contract different than the one the National Council approved. That too, was vetoed and I couldn't get it overridden.

Now look at all the problems with our health care.

I would like the Creek citizens to know there are some National Council members trying to get what is best for Indians.

Wynema Roberts, Okemah

Editor's note: Roberts is a two-term Okfuskee District representative.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

James Wolfe, managing editor
Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff writer

Council confirms lighthorse chief, Supreme Court justice at March meeting

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council confirmed a lighthorse chief and a Supreme Court justice at its March 25 meeting.

The 36-member tribal legislature voted to confirm Marsey Scott (26-7) as police chief and Roger Wiley (32-0) to the Muscogee Nation Supreme Court.

Scott of Wetumka, had been interim chief of the tribal law enforcement program. He has been employed with the Muscogee Nation in a security or law enforcement capacity since 1979.

Voting for confirmation were: Duke Harjo, Leah Jack, Phyllis Warrington, and Earl Wheeler, Creek Dist.; Darrell Coachman, Tim Fife, Dwayne Lowe, and Thomas Yahola, Tukvptce Dist.; Wilbur Gouge, Sandy McIntosh, Thomas McIntosh, Tommy Pickering and Yahola Townsend, McIntosh Dist.; Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, and Frances Pease, Muskogee Dist.; Bruce Smith, Okfuskee Dist.; A.D. Ellis, Anderson Hale, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, and David Nichols, Okmulgee Dist.; Perry Beaver, Larry Bible, and Jesse Kelley, Tulsa Dist.; and Richard Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.

Voting against confirmation were: Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, and Wynema Roberts, Okfuskee Dist.; Dave Lewis, and Peggy Lyda, Okmulgee Dist.; Irene Cleghorn, Tulsa Dist.; and Barbara Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.

Absent were: Earl King and Edwin Moore, Tulsa Dist. Speaker Steve Bruner conducted the meeting and votes only on veto messages and to break ties.

Wiley's confirmation was unanimous though Nichols, Okmulgee Dist., did not vote. He will complete the term of the late Jim Hayes (March 28, 1998).

In other business, the Council:

— failed (15-19) to override a vetoed appropriations bill for the Oklahoma City community. Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association had been approved \$30,000 for the purchase of real property.

Principal Chief Bill Fife vetoed the bill, (NCA 94-85) because of the funding source and recommended the Council find a source other than the Indian Country lawsuit judgement.

Voting against the override were: Harjo, Jack, Warrington, and Wheeler, Creek Dist.; Fife and Lowe,

Tukvptce Dist.; T. McIntosh, Pickering, and Townsend, McIntosh Dist.; Chupco, Coker, and Pease, Muskogee Dist.; Smith, Okfuskee Dist.; Ellis, Harjo, Lewis, and Nichols, Okmulgee Dist.; Bible, Tulsa Dist.; and Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes.

Voting for the override were: Coachman and Yahola, Tukvptce Dist.;

Gouge and S. McIntosh, McIntosh Dist.; Jackson, Johnson, and Roberts, Okfuskee Dist.; Hale, Litsey, and Lyda, Okmulgee Dist.; Beaver, Bruner, Cleghorn, and Kelley, Tulsa Dist.; and Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.;

— approved unanimously National Council Resolution 95-06 urging resistance to nepotism and patronage and encouraging promotion within. The resolution is non-binding;

— approved (32-1) the confirmation of Senora Hayes to the Creek Nation Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. Hayes of Coweta, will begin her second term as commissioner.

Voting against confirmation was Litsey, Okmulgee Dist.;

— approved (32-1) the confirmation of George Thompson to the CNHA Board of Commissioners. Thompson of Yardeka, will begin his second term as commissioner.

Voting against confirmation was Litsey, Okmulgee Dist.;

— approved (31-2) an appropriation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Manufacturing Enterprise. The \$300,000 will come from the federal docket 275 economic development funds and will be used for equipment and expansion.

Voting against NCA 95-19 were: Jackson, Okfuskee Dist.; and Cleghorn, Tulsa Dist.;

— approved unanimously (30-0) NCA 95-20, an

appropriations bill for direct client services. The \$600,000 will be taken from the Indian Country lawsuit settlement.

Not voting were: Coachman, Tukvptce Dist.; and Wheeler, Creek Dist.;

—voted (24-5) to return to the author a bill appro-

March 30 special session

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council met in special session March 30 at Okmulgee. Though four items were on the agenda, only one —NCA 94-85 — was voted on.

The bill authorizes the appropriation of \$30,000 to the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association for the purchase of real property.

The vote was 28-0. Second speaker Thomas Yahola conducted the meeting. Speaker Steve Bruner did not vote. Absent from the meeting were: Dwayne Lowe, Tukvptce Dist.; Thomas McIntosh and Tommy Pickering, McIntosh Dist.; Bruce Smith, Okfuskee Dist.; Jim Harjo, Okmulgee Dist.; and Edwin Moore, Tulsa Dist.

priating the gaming operations authority board operations budget.

Voting to return the bill were: Harjo, Jack, and Warrington, Creek Dist.; Lowe and Yahola, Tukvptce Dist.; Gouge, S. McIntosh, and Pickering, McIntosh Dist.; Chupco, Coker, and Pease, Muskogee Dist.; Jackson, Johnson, and Roberts, Okfuskee Dist.; Ellis, Harjo, Lewis, Litsey, Lyda, and Nichols, Okmulgee Dist.; Beaver, Cleghorn, and Kelley, Tulsa Dist.; and Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.

Voting against return were: Fife, Tukvptce Dist.; T. McIntosh and Townsend, McIntosh Dist.; Smith, Okfuskee Dist.; and Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.

Absent were: Wheeler, Creek Dist.; Coachman, Tukvptce Dist.; Hale, Okmulgee Dist.; Bible, King, and Moore, Tulsa Dist.;

— approved unanimously (29-0) NCA 95-23. The bill is an amendment to the vision and orthodontics program budgets;

— failed (10-19) to repeal a resolution confirming gaming commissioner Rocky McIntosh.

Voting against the repeal were: Harjo and Warrington, Creek Dist.; Fife, Lowe, and Yahola, Tukvptce Dist.; Gouge, S. McIntosh, T. McIntosh, Pickering, and Townsend, McIntosh Dist.; Chupco, Coker, and Pease, Muskogee Dist.; Smith, Okfuskee Dist.; Ellis, Harjo, and Lewis, Okmulgee Dist.; and Berryhill and Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.

Voting for repeal were: Jack, Creek Dist.; Jackson, Johnson, and Roberts, Okfuskee Dist.; Litsey, Lyda, and Nichols, Okmulgee Dist.; and Beaver, Cleghorn, and Kelley, Tulsa Dist.;

— voted (24-4-1) to repeal the confirmation of tribal health administrator Ed Mouss.

Voting for NCA 95-27 were: Harjo, Jack, and Warrington, Creek Dist.; Gouge, S. McIntosh, T. McIntosh, Pickering, and Townsend, McIntosh Dist.; Coker and Pease, Muskogee Dist.; Jackson, Johnson, and Roberts, Okfuskee Dist.; Ellis, Harjo, Lewis, Litsey, Lyda, and Nichols, Okmulgee Dist.; Beaver, Cleghorn, and Kelley, Tulsa Dist.; and Berryhill and

Voter information for upcoming tribal elections

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Election Board is reminding all citizens about future dates as well as the need to keep voting records current. Any enrolled citizen 18 years or older may register to vote in tribal elections. Voters are obligated to keep their addresses current with the election board. Failure to do so may make a voter ineligible.

1995 election calendar

• Sept. 18 through 20 — tribal filing period for all offices opens. For National Council, candidate must be an enrolled full citizen (one-quarter blood quantum or more), reside within the district for at least one year, and be at least 18 years old. Filing fee is \$100.

• For principal chief and second chief, candidates must be enrolled full citizens, legal resident within tribal jurisdiction for one year, and be at least 30 years old. Filing fee is \$500.

• Oct. 4 — absentee voter registration closes

• Oct. 18 — registration for primary election closes

• Oct. 28 — primary election

• Nov. 22 — registration for general election closes

• Dec. 2 — general election.

For more information, contact the election board at (918) 756-8700.

Tribal manufacturing enterprise receives grant

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Principal Chief Bill S. Fife announced that through the joint efforts of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Muscogee Nation, grant funding in the amount of \$78,000 has been awarded for the Muscogee Nation Manufacturing Enterprise (MNME).

Fife acknowledged Jimmy Gibson, BIA superintendent, and T.C. McCrary, BIA loan specialist, for their work with the tribe in securing this grant.

The manufacturing enterprise began in 1994 with five employees and orders from Zebco, the nation's largest fishing rod manufacturer. It also performs work for Max Buchanan, a manufacturer of health products. The plant, which has shown consistent growth, now employs 22 and has outgrown its current facility.

"Our plan is to leverage this money with tribal monies, which have been earmarked for economic development, so we can build our own facility, provide working capital, and purchase equipment," Fife said. "This will allow us to achieve our goal to provide more training and jobs for Muscogee citizens. However, we're at that stage of growth where we have more work than we have space or people to handle. This will allow us to handle more contracts, and hire more people."

Grover Wind, plant manager, said the it is also looking at manufacturing windows. "Initially, we'll work with our housing authority to supply storm and replacement windows to new and existing homes," Wind said.

Later, markets will include suppliers, other tribal housing authorities, Hous-

ing and Urban Development authorities, government agencies, military bases, and the commercial market.

Wind said the plant cannot realize its full potential without more space and equipment.

"Since this is a new endeavor for Muscogee Nation, we've had to determine if the potential is there. Now, we know the opportunities are limitless. Our National Council has the vision to realize the need to provide employment for our citizens. This endeavor is a way that we can diversify revenue streams for the tribe, help our people become self supporting, as well as learn new and advanced skills," Wind said. The BIA has also been supportive since the inception in planning as well as funding.

Under Fife's administration, Muscogee Nation has implemented a strategic plan which encompasses five areas: culture, government, land, services, and economic development for the growth of the Nation.

"The establishment of this manufacturing plant is another step toward accomplishing our strategic goal for economic development — to create an industrial base for efficient use of the tribes human and natural resources. We believe we can become self reliant through the development of an economic system which will bring opportunities to our citizens," Fife said. "To control our own destiny, we must expand our ability to produce income."

To date, MNME has assembled over 315,000 reels, 105,000 rods, 4,000 pumps, and over 309,000 fish weight scales.

Tribal food distribution manager named to national advisory board

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Bill S. Fife announced Charley LaSarge has been selected to serve on a national board. LaSarge, tribal food distribution program manager, has been appointed as the representative for the Food Distribution on Indian Reservations Program for the National Advisory Council on Commodity Distribution for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Only fifteen people were selected nationwide.

LaSarge has been employed with the tribe for ten years and has been actively involved in working with the food distribution program, serving on a number of committees.

LaSarge also serves on the office of native American programs advisory board. This regional board is the only one in the country which represents American Indian programs, and represents programs such as women, infants, and children (WIC), child care, and elderly nutrition programs.



photo by Dannette Geren

Pictured at the grand opening of the Muscogee Nation Center for Human Development were from left to right: Frances Pease, Muskogee District representative; Tim Fife, Tukvptce District representative; Rev. John Buckner, Belvin Baptist Church; Wilbur Gouge, McIntosh District representative; Woody Anderson, tribal affairs director; Principal Chief Bill Fife; Dwayne Lowe, Tukvptce District representative; Hugh Johnson, and Jules Valdez, both of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Creek Nation 4-H program spring swine show winners announced

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation's third 4-H program swine show was held with awards presented to several area students.

Robin Cooper, Muscogee Nation Extension 4-H agent, said there are approximately 50 enrolled members. Through workshops and school enrichment programs, a number of youth get involvement in the 4-H program.

Cooper says the emphasis is on life skills and teaching responsibility through involvement in activities which keep youth focused in a positive direction.

Principal Chief Bill Fife said the Muscogee Nation was the first tribe in Oklahoma to be funded under the U.S. Department of Agriculture Extension Indian-Reservation Program (EIRP).

"This program is a way we can get our youth involved in activities which not only builds self-esteem and confidence, but there is also parental involvement," Fife said. "The positive impact of this program helps teach our youth how to make the right choices in life."

A variety of programs are offered to meet the interests of Indian children, including livestock, swine, and dog obedience. New programs, including environmental programs, are also being planned.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H program is open to any American Indian youth ages 9 to 19, living in the tribal boundaries. For more information, call Cooper at (918) 756-8700, ext. 370.

Results

Division I

First — Rebecca McDougal,

Kellyville

Second — Stacy Ward, Oktaha

Third — Cheri Breashears, Haskell

Fourth — Derek Park, Checotah

Fifth — Jason Dennison, Kellyville

Grand champion — McDougal (plaque and \$50)

Reserve grand champion — Ward

Showmanship — Park

Reserve showmanship — Breashears

Division II

Duroc

First — Billie Lindley, Wilson

Second — Brandi Eller, Oktaha

Third — McDougal

Fourth — Jennifer Naugher, Haskell

Fifth — Michelle Story, Moss

Hampshire

First — Lindley

Second — Ward

Third — Jordan Lechner, Haskell

Fourth — Lindsey Johnson, Oktaha

Fifth — Breashears

Sixth — Johnson

Seventh — Rachael Landsberry, Henryetta

Yorkshire

First — Robert McDougal, Kellyville

Second — Kristi Chambers, Oktaha

Third — Chambers

Fourth — Lechner

Crossbreed

First — Story, Moss

Second — Josh Eller, Oktaha

Third — Johnson

Fourth — Chambers

Fifth — Joyce Huit, Porter

Grand champion — Lindley

Reserve grand champion — Robert McDougal

Student achievement

Melissa Tiger

OWASSO — Muscogee citizen Melissa Tiger is the recipient of the American Indian Art Association Scholarship Committee award for visual and performing arts for her work during the Tulsa Indian Art Festival in February. Tiger also participates in the Oklahoma Indian Theater Dance Company.

A student at Owasso High School, she is the daughter of Art and Irene Tiger of Owasso.

Paternal grandparents are Jim and Rachel Guterrez. Maternal grandparents are Marie and the late C.D. Harjo.

Alicia Arsee

OKMULGEE — Muscogee citizen Alicia Arsee won the Okmulgee Elks Shoot Out and the Preston Free Throw Shoot Out recently. She placed fourth in the district competition at Sapulpa.

She competed in the girls 10 and 11-year-old category. Arsee is the daughter of Debra Johnson.

Crystal Woodward

MUSKOGEE — Muscogee citizen Crystal Woodward won the Five Civilized Tribes Museum's Willard Stone Memorial Award for her sculpture "Once in a Lifetime" and also placed third with her painting "How Do I Sound?"

The Willard Stone Memorial Award is given for the student art show's best sculpture.

She is the daughter of Randy and Verbena Woodward of Shawnee.

Maternal grandparents are the late Robert and Amanda Fields Deer. Paternal grandparents are George and Anne Woodward.



Tiger



Arsee



Woodward

Creek students have successful showing of hogs

OKEMAH — Muscogee citizens Kunawv Yahola and Teddy Harjo have had success showing hogs at area swine shows.

Yahola, a ninth-grade student at Okemah High School, received first place at the Weleetka Jackpot, second place at Okemah, and another second place award at the Okfuskee County show. She also took fourth place at a related speech contest.

Yahola is the daughter of Earnestine Henneha of Okemah.

Harjo has received reserve grand champion at Okemah, Okfuskee County, and Prague. He also received fourth place at Weleetka.

The Okemah High School sophomore is the son of Dwight Lunsford.

Both students made the premium auction at



Yahola and Harjo

the Okfuskee County Show. The pair are participating in the Muscogee Nation 4-H Swine program.

Citizen receives university regents medal

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Muscogee citizen Theda Rushing is a recipient of the University of New Mexico Board of Regents Recognition Medal.

She was honored at the winter commencement ceremonies, held in December, for her contribution to the university during her 35-year association with the institution.

Rushing was commissioned buy the university to design its first seal and make the first banner in 1963. She revised the seal in 1980.

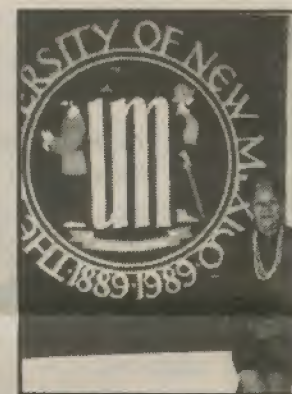
The original seal is now on permanent display on campus.

She has been a professional artist for 44 years and has exhibited extensively.

Rushing is the daughter of the late Melissa Cosar Douglas and the great-granddaughter of the late Jackson Lewis (Lahte Yahola), a medicine man and Confederate lieutenant.

She is the sister of John Douglas, Clarence Douglas, and Jerlena King, all of Eufaula.

She and her husband Jack, reside in Albuquerque.



Rushing

Harjos to observe 40th anniversary in Wewoka

WEWOKA — Jacob and Matilda (Peggy) will observe their 40th wedding anniversary with a reception beginning at 2 p.m., April 22 at the Rudolph Hargrave Civic Center.

The Harjos were married April 23, 1955 in Arkansas City, Kan.

The couple were both employed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence, Kan., for 30 years. The pair retired in 1987 and returned to Wewoka where they now make their home.

Both are active in the Wewoka Indian Presbyterian Church and Sand Creek Baptist Church, Wetumka.

Mr. Harjo was born in Wetumka and attended at Wetumka Central, Lone Star, Euchee Boarding School, Jones Academy, Chilocco, Garden City

(Kansas) Community College, Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, East Central University, Ada, and is a theology student at Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee.

He is a veteran of the U.S. Army who saw action in the Korean conflict with the all-Indian Company C of Chilocco, 279th Infantry, of the famed Oklahoma 45th Division.

Mrs. Harjo attended Sams School, Wewoka High School, Bacone College and East Central University.

Both have also done graduate work at the University of Arizona, Tuscon, and the University of Kansas, Lawrence.

Relatives and friends of the couple are invited with a special invitation extended to the former students, employees, and retirees of Haskell and Chilocco.



The Harjos

Muscogee Nation obituaries

JAMES DUNSON

OKEMAH — A Funeral service for James Earl "Sonny" Dunson was held at the First Baptist Church with Rev. Wayne Cook, Sallisaw, officiating and Ovonual Johnston Jr., Rodgers, Ark., assisting.

A wake service was held at Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church on March 20.

Dunson died in Okemah on March 18. He was born July 5, 1939 to Earl and Lucille Dunson in Tahlequah.

He was a retired veteran and a member of the National Guard. He lived in Okemah most of his life and was of the Christian faith. He was a member of the Okemah Golf Club, American Legion Post # 123, and Creek Nation Rodeo Club.

He is survived by: his wife, Cynthia, of the home; his parents of Glenpool; one son, Mike Dunson of Okemah; one stepson, Toby Dowell of Stillwater; two daughters, Shari Sarniento of Sapulpa and Wendy Montemayor of Oklahoma City; and stepdaughter, Page Davidson of Stillwater; two brothers, Richard and Steve Dunson, both of Bixby; four sisters, Marion Mitchell and Genese Switch, both of Midwest City and Beverly Parker and Lorene Lusty, both of Tulsa; 10 grandchildren; and a host of other relatives.

Interment was in Highland Cemetery.

MICHAEL BUCKTROT

BRISTOW — Graveside rites for Michael Eugene Bucktrot were held March 22 at the Bucktrot Family Cemetery with Rev. Newman Littlebear officiating.

Bucktrot died March 18 in Tulsa. He was born July 21, 1951 in Claremore. He had been a Bristow resident most of his life. He was a welder and was employed with Lee C. Moore in Tulsa for several years. Bucktrot was a member of Mutteloke United Methodist

Church.

He is survived by: his mother, Rosa Marsey, Sapulpa; four brothers, Wade Bucktrot Jr., Tulsa, Robert Bucktrot, Cleveland, Jerry Bucktrot, and Kelly Bucktrot, Cromwell; one sister, Mona Gibbs, Sapulpa; and a host of other family members.

Pallbearers were: Cheyenne Watashe; Paige Watashe; Clifford Littlebear; Cecil Harry; Jim Littlehead; and Chuck Slinker.

MINNIE CHALAKEE

BROKEN ARROW — Services for Minnie Chisholm Chalakee were held at Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church Feb. 23 with Rev. Foster Haikey officiating.

She passed away at Claremore Indian Hospital Feb. 20.

She was born to Anderson and Rosa Fulokta Chisholm on May 17, 1903 at the family home in Indian Territory near present-day Broken Arrow. Rosa Chisholm donated three acres of land to help establish a church on the family property — Haikey Chapel. The family lived at the home — at what is now 101st and Memorial — until the time of their mother's death in 1917.

She was the second of three daughters, Pauline, Minnie, and Lena. All three girls were educated at and graduated from a Bureau of Indian Affairs School in Lawrence, Kan.

She married March Pinson Martin and had a son, Carl, in 1923. She later married Jim Chalakee and lived on a farm east of Broken Arrow until moving to Okmulgee in 1946. She was a homemaker and was always involved in work for the church. As long as she was able, she attended Springtown United Methodist Church. Her husband preceded her in death in 1969. She had been a resident of Wood Manor Nursing Home in Claremore for the past seven years.

She is survived by: a sister, Lena Berryhill of Okmulgee; her son, Carl Martin of Broken Arrow; three grandchildren, Sheryl DuPree of Tulsa, James Martin of Sterling, Va., and Betty Gerber of Broken Arrow; seven great-grandchildren, Anne Johnson and John Simms of Tulsa, Tika Martin of Medford, Mass., Kevin and Kellie Martin of Sterling, Va., Jennifer Day of Norman, and Gary Gerber Jr. of Broken Arrow.

HETTIE ROBERTSON

EUFAULA — A funeral service for Hettie Morrison Robertson was held Feb. 18 at Merritt Funeral Chapel with Rev. Earnest Best officiating.

She died Feb. 15. Robertson was born Jan. 2, 1905 to Major C. and Carrie Wood Morrison at Lenna.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; her husband, Joe E. Robertson; daughter, Alice Hinesley; and one brother, Buford Morrison.

Her survivors include: two daughters, Bonnie Bayless, Bakersfield, Calif., Esther Robertson, Checotah; three sons, Joe and Clarence Robertson, both of Bakersfield, Herman Robertson, Stockton, Calif.; five sisters, Hattie James and Dortha Reed, both of Lenna, Elizabeth Spear, Dustin, Leara Copeland, Santa Maria, Calif., Mary Edwards, Arvin, Calif.; and one brother, John Levi Morrison, Yuma, Ariz.; numerous grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Interment was in Greenwood Cemetery.

Gratitude

We wish to thank each and everyone who attended the memorial service of John B. Haikey Jan. 21. Thank you all for caring and sharing in our loss. We would like to offer a special thank you to Pastor Newman Frank, John Lowe, David Wilde, those who brought food, and Muscogee Nation.

The John B. Haikey Family

Religion briefs

Bemo Baptist to hold Palm Sunday

TULSA — Bemo Baptist Church is holding a Palm Sunday service April 9.

The service will begin at 11 a.m. Dinner will follow.

The church is located three-fourths of a mile west of the intersection of 131st and Memorial and then south.

Dallas church seeks transplanted Indians

DALLAS — Individuals visiting or moving to the Dallas-Fort Worth area are encouraged to

attend First Indian Baptist Church of Dallas.

Currently, the Apache, Choctaw, Mississippi Choctaw, Muscogee, and Seminole tribes are represented in the church.

For more information about the church, call or write Pastor Alan Smith at: (214) 445-0402; First Indian Baptist Church, 603 S. Beacon, Dallas, TX 75223.

Grant Chapel schedules onion dinner

WELTY — Grant Chapel United Methodist Church is holding an all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner beginning at noon, April 8.

The dinner will cost \$5. From the junction of U.S. Highway 62 and state highway 48, drive 10

and one-half miles north, four miles west, and one-fourth of a mile south.

Montesoma slates "Harvest Revival"

OKEMAH — Montesoma Baptist Church is holding a "Harvest Revival" from April 12 through 15. The service will begin at 7:30 nightly. The evangelist is Allen Colbert of Tulsa.

A nursery will be provided for children ages birth to five years.

The church's Easter service will begin at 11 a.m., April 16.

From the junction of U.S. Highway 62 and state highway 56, the church is located 13 and one-half miles north.

Food distribution nutritional education program class schedule

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Food Distribution Program will hold classes and demonstrations in nutritional education at the following sites during April:

April 11 — 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- Okmulgee warehouse, tribal complex, nutritional education

April 12 — 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

- Kellyville Indian Community
- Wilson, Indian Community

April 13 — 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

- Wetumka Indian Community
- Checotah Indian Community

April 18 — 9:30 a.m. to noon

- Koweta Indian Community
- Holdenville Indian Community

April 19 — 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

- Glenpool Indian Community

- Okemah Indian Community

April 20 — 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

- Eufaula Indian Community
- Bristow Indian Community

April 25

- Okmulgee warehouse, 8:30a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- Weleetka Indian Community, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

April 26 — 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

- Kellyville Indian Community

April 27 — 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

- Checotah Indian Community

For more information, contact the nutrition education program at (918) 756-2917.

In brief

BIA royalty owners meeting

OKMULGEE — The Bureau of Indian Affairs Okmulgee Agency quarterly meeting of oil and gas royalty owners will be held at 10 a.m., April 12 at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56. The meeting is for royalty owners who may have questions or problems with their leases on restricted property. For more information, contact Floyd Waters at (918) 756-3950.

Language group incorporates

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Mvskoke (Creek) Language Institute is a recently formed non-profit group created to preserve and promote the use of the Mvskoke language.

The group is seeking tax-deductible cash donations and in-kind contributions.

The group has audio-tapes, workbooks, and calendars available for purchase. The group also conducts language classes in the area. For more information, contact Claudette Robertson, George Bunny, or Ted Isham at (405) 947-1853, or write Mvskoke Language Institute, P.O. Box 74969, Oklahoma City, OK 73147.

Children's protection meeting

OKMULGEE — A community meeting to discuss protecting the children in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be from 1 to 5 p.m., April 12 at the tribal capitol complex independent agencies building (mound) auditorium. The meeting will be conducted by Second Chief Shelly Crow, M.S., R.N., who is a community clinical nurse specialist.

There is no charge to attend the meeting. For more information, contact

the office of the second chief at (918) 756-8700.

Bristow community art show

BRISTOW — Bristow Indian Community's Third Arts and Crafts Show will feature juried shows for adult and youth divisions May 6 and 7. Entry information is available at local Muscogee Nation community centers or by calling Judy Riley at (918) 367-2249 between 9 a.m. and noon, or Gary Deeringwater at (918) 367-3788 between 5 and 8 p.m.

Housing loan program

OKLAHOMA CITY — The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is administering the Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program for loans made by private lenders to Indian families and Indian housing authorities for the purchase, construction, or rehabilitation of one to four family dwellings. The homes can be located on trust or restricted land or on fee simple land located within the jurisdiction of an Indian housing authority.

For more information, contact the southern plains office of Indian programs at (405) 231-4101.

City seeks course laborer

SAPULPA — Applications are being accepted at the City of Sapulpa for a police officer. Applicants must have a high school diploma, be at least 21 years old, possess no criminal background, and have a good driving record. Applicant must pass written examination, physical agility course, oral interview board, polygraph, MMPI, drug screening, and Oklahoma State Pension Board physical.

Gregg Sevier memorial march set

LAWRENCE, Kan. — A march for healing and justice in memory of the late Gregg Sevier, a Muscogee citizen, will be April 21 from Lawrence City Hall to South Park Pavilion to the Haskell powwow grounds for a potluck dinner and stomp dance.

The march will mark the fourth anniversary of Sevier's death. Sevier was shot to death by Lawrence city police at his parents' home. His parents called the police to their home because of concern for their distraught son.

Walkers will gather at 3:30 p.m. Following this, the march will proceed to South Park to hear speakers address areas of concern to all

Lawrence residents. The stomp dance will be led by Troy Little Axe. All participants are encouraged to wear native dress. Haskell Indian Nations University Student Senate and the Seminole-Euchee-Creek Club are event sponsors.

For more information call:

- Sevier family at (913) 843-6398;
- Lori Learned at (913) 841-0918;
- Pixie Larios at (913) 842-6634;
- Carol Collier at (913) 841-1214;

or

- George Blackwood at (913) 749-3567.

Editor's note: This story appeared in the August 1991 edition of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

The city is also accepting applications for full and part-time positions at the municipal golf course. Apply for both positions at 425 E. Dewey, Sapulpa, OK 74066.

Organization seeks members

SEATTLE, Wash. — The Northwest Five Tribes Association is an informal organization seeking other members of the Muscogee (Creek), Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Seminole nations in the Seattle metropolitan area. The group meets the third Sunday of each month at Woodland Park United Methodist Church, 78th and Greenwood, at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Phil Bange at 726 N. 88th St. #E, Seattle, WA 98117 or call Linda Knighton at (206) 524-3584.

Jess Dunn to host tournament

TAFT — Iron Lodge Intertribal Council at Jess Dunn Correctional Center will host a softball tournament April 8 and 9 at the center. Entry fee for the tournament is \$75 and two blue dot softballs. For information, contact Dave Southerland or Brenda Preno at (918) 687-7841.

Men's fast pitch tournament

OKMULGEE — A men's fast pitch softball tournament will be held April 29 at the Muscogee Nation Omniplex softball fields, just west of U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56. First, second, and third place team trophies with individual tee shirts for first and second place finishers. Other awards include most valuable player and a base running contest. Prepaid entry fee is \$75. Late entry fee is \$90. For more information, contact Dean Williams, (918) 758-0471.

Tulsa community offers notary, job referral services

TULSA — Tulsa Creek Indian Community has notary public service available to community members at no charge.

- A job search and referral service for community members is also available.

The program is to assist members and their families find employment, through local companies and two temporary services.

- TCIC board members are: Pat Kelly, chair; Gloria Lowe, treasurer; Carol Morris, secretary; and Greg Moore, sergeant-at-arms.

- The board has authorized an independent audit of the community's operations. A preliminary draft revealed the community's financial operations to be in "excellent condition," said Stan McGilbray, TCIC administrator.

- The TCIC office is at 6363 E. 31st St., Room 105. The phone number is (918) 832-7062.

Smith Family reunion

LAMAR — The annual Smith Family reunion will be May 27 at Middle Creek Baptist Church #1. All family members are asked to bring a covered dish. A variety of games and activities begin at 9:30 a.m. Door prizes will also be offered.

For more information, contact Mark Smith at P.O. Box 235, Dustin, OK 74859, or Minnie Smith Long at 2167 E. 3rd P.W., Holdenville, OK 74848.

Tukvptce town reorganizes, elects officers

from Tukvptce Tribal Town reports

TUKVPTCE — In an effort to thwart the threat of cultural extinction, members of Tukvptce Tribal Town are banding to reaffirm their identity and preserve tradition.

Several individuals of Tukvptce Tribal Town met in November 1994 to consider endorsement of the naming of the local legislative district. The meeting, convened by Methodist minister and tribal town member Rev. Harry Long, heard from several members (including elders) who expressed concern for the deterioration of cultural and traditional values.

One specific concern was the decline of tribal town identity.

Town identity is inherited from one's mother and has historically influenced virtually every aspect of the Muscogee Indian. These include religion, government, social relations, and personal self image.

Following the discussion, a decision was made to continue meeting periodically. The group also agreed to create a formal organization with the express purpose of preserving and perpetuating the identities of tribal town members.

During its following meeting, held in January at Holdenville Indian Community Center, officers were elected and installed.

They are: Edwin Marshall, chair; Cora Beaver, vice-chair; and Lucinda Berryhill, secretary.

Marshall said he was honored to be elected chair.

"Considering the fact that elders such as Nancy Beaver, Dan Harjo, Melissa Deere, and others are an active part of our town and that they have entrusted me such responsibility, is an honor," Marshall said.

"We're talking about a social structure so ancient that it predates the old Muscogee Confederacy. Much like the clan system, one is born into the tribal town and that identity can never be taken.

"It's apparent that this is a gift from the Creator as a provision for unity and social interaction. Furthermore, tribal town identity transcends any barrier that we as human beings can impose on ourselves."

Marshall contends that with the adoption of the 1979 tribal Constitution and its subsequent district representative form of government, the importance of tribal town identity was de-emphasized and consequently, many people can't identify their tribal towns.

"That may not have been the intention, but that has certainly been the effect," Marshall said. "I hope this trend can be turned around, at least for the Tukvptce."

Meetings are to be held quarterly with the next one set for 10 a.m., April 15 with a covered dish luncheon to follow. All tribal town members are encouraged to attend.

Tribal program participates at annual state Johnson O'Malley conference

TULSA — The 11th Annual Oklahoma Johnson O'Malley Conference was held March 27 through 30 in Tulsa. This year's theme is "JOM: Sharing our Traditions and Knowledge Today — Ensuring a Strong Tomorrow." The Johnson O'Malley Program has been in existence for over 60 years.

Tribal JOM program manager Ken Taryole said the purpose of the conference is to give school administrators, JOM staff personnel, tribal program staff, educators, and parents an opportunity to share ideas and information related to issues in the field of Indian education.

"Although many changes have evolved, the basic purpose is the same — to provide supplementary assistance to meet the unique and specialized educational needs of Indian children," Taryole said.

Under the JOM program Indian students in grades kindergarten through 12, that attend public schools that participate in the JOM program, are eligible for special services.

The Muscogee Nation JOM program currently serves approximately 11,000 students in 48 public schools, representing 65 different tribes. Statewide, over 63,700 Indian students participate in the Johnson O'Malley program.

In October of 1992, The Muscogee (Creek) Nation contracted the JOM Program from the BIA, administering funds for the operation of supplemental programs for the education of eligible Indian students.

Citizenship office notice

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Citizenship office is issuing certificate degree of Indian blood (CDIB) cards in addition to tribal citizenship cards. New issues for CDIB cards will take approximately one week. First-time citizen card issues will still require six to eight weeks from time of application. Replacement cards for either are \$5 and will take approximately one week for the replacements to be issued.

Council

continued from page 3

Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.

Voting against the repeal were: Fife, Lowe, and Yahola, Tukvptce Dist.; and Smith, Okfuskee Dist.

Abstaining was Chupco, Muskogee Dist.;

— approved unanimously an appropriation of \$1,000 to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education for meal expenses. The board will meet in Muskogee in April. The money will be taken from the interest of the permanent fund account;

— approved unanimously (28-0) NCA 94-77. The bill establishes guidelines for the school clothing program.

Roberts, Okfuskee Dist., was absent;

— approved unanimously (28-0) a continuation ordinance for tribal administration and operation of tribal service programs.

All bills are forwarded to the principal chief for his consideration.

Crow column

continued from page 2

ment Grants would cost the Muscogee National Council approximately \$250,000 and would cut technical assistance grants of approximately \$60,000. This affects 35 positions and three major programs.

•Muscogee (Creek) Nation Indian Housing could have a total impact of \$5 million dollars if congress choose to direct funding to the state HUD for our people to access housing.

It is apparent that our newly-elected leaders in Washington are not educated to the facts that tribal governments represent the interests of their citizens as well as any state government.

Once again, trying to consolidate Indian programs with state programs takes away the rights of Indian nations to govern, develop, and be responsible for their own citizens needs.

The Muscogee people have survived thousands of years of oppression, but now the federal government is trying to legislate us out of existence. They hold the purse strings.

If you'd like more information, contact my office at (918) 756-8700. Together we will make our voices heard...

I would also like to express my thanks to the staff that has cooperated with my office by attending a problem-solving meeting to enhance our nation's programs that affect our children.

I was impressed. Our first meeting included representatives from several departments with many suggestions. One development is the multi-disciplinary seminar counseling crisis intervention team to provide assistance on weekends and after 5 p.m. — where service gaps exist.

Representatives from the division of health administration, lighthouse administration, children and family services, social services, and children's medical center worked on several ways to help our children get access to services.

We have planned a conference from 1 to 5 p.m., April 12 at the independent agencies building (mound) auditorium. There is no charge to attend this meeting.

Class of 1995 to be highlighted

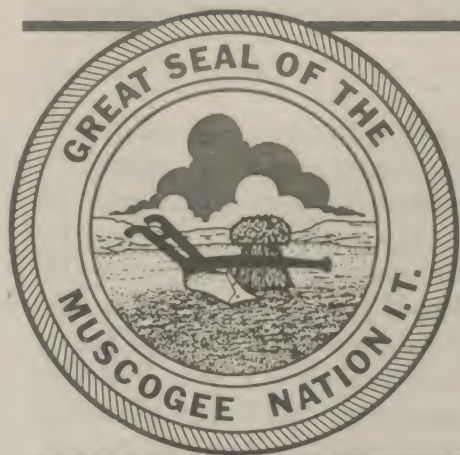
The May edition of *The Muscogee Nation News* will feature a section of tribal citizens graduating from high school or college this spring. The deadline for submissions to be received is April 25. Any received after will be published in later editions.

Please include student's tribal citizenship number with all information. Space is limited. Please keep information to the following subjects:

- name of graduate (and tribal roll number);
- name of graduating institution;
- parents, spouse, grandparents, or guardians;
- scholarships, academic honors, extracurricular activities, achievements, awards, etc.; and
- future plans.

Photographs can be either black and white or color but it must be focused clearly. To have a photograph returned, include a return address.

Please address all submissions to *The Muscogee Nation News* at: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.



The Muscogee Nation News

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May 1995, 12 Pages

Principal Chief Fife discusses tribal tenure: past and future

by Bill Fife, principal chief

During my tenure as your principal chief, many changes have occurred that coincide with the changes in the social and economic environment of the United States. In the 1980s, government spending in the United States increased exponentially. This increase in spending allowed for an expansion in the size of the military, number of social programs and in the areas of research in technology and medicine. This spending was unrestrained and created an increase in the federal deficit that has reached over one trillion dollars. In 1994, the citizens of the United States overwhelmingly voted for a change — a change in the way the federal government operated, a change in the unrestrained spending practices of the United States Congress, and a change in the way services are delivered to the citizens of this Nation.

This vote for change was due, in part, to the perception that our representatives in Washington D.C. had forgotten why they were elected. They had lost touch with their constituents in the districts from which they were elected. They had lost sight of the needs of the people whom they represent. The needs of the Muscogee (Creek) people are significant. We are experiencing a time of increased unemployment and an increase in the number of people with income below the poverty level. To compound the difficulties experienced by the Muscogee Nation, the availability of federal monies to provide services has decreased. However, this administration has not lost sight of the needs of the people nor forgotten the people that elected us.

To meet the needs of our people in 1995 we have increased the services available to the Muscogee (Creek) people. We have received funding to implement the adoption opportunities and family preservation programs. We

have received an increase in the funding levels for Indian child welfare so that our children will be able to reside in safe, stable, nurturing home environments. Funding was increased for the General Assistance program which serves families in need. This program is now assisting more families than ever before. We have allocated funds for families in the areas of emergency hardship, energy assistance, emergency medical assistance, burial assistance and food for families that have suffered the loss of a family member.

Despite the decrease in federal funding, the government of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation continues to provide for the people of this Nation. The provision of services to the people require several components. These include:

- * The recognition of the responsibility of elected officials and representatives to conduct activities in a coordinated, accountable, pre-determined manner that is responsive to the needs of the people.

- * The establishment of priorities and a comprehensive plan that will facilitate the achievement of the goals of the Tribe.

- * The creation of an infrastructure that provides adequate staffing for service delivery.

- * The establishment of guidelines and eligibility criteria for services to focus the provision of services to those in need and without adequate resources.

- * To establish resource programs that provide assistance to those in need of services affecting their daily lives.

- * The responsibility to facilitate economic development ventures to preserve the continuation of current programs and the recognition that we have a responsibility to invest in programs that serve the best interest of the population.

please see CHIEF..., page 12



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Okmulgee Head Start students celebrate the National Association for the Education of Young Children's "Week of the Young Child" by doing the limbo with Barney. April 24 through 28, 1995 marked its third year to participate in the national observance. The week was celebrated by encouraging parent volunteerism and National Council representative classroom visits also.

Bruner resigns as Council speaker

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker Steve Bruner resigned his leadership position at the legislature's April regular session.

Citing a desire to spend more time with his family, Bruner said the April 19 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City was the impetus for his decision. He made the announcement at the conclusion of the meeting.

"Those of you with families will understand where I'm coming from," Bruner said. He and his wife, Carol Jean, have three children and reside in Broken Arrow.

Inside: Creek Festival; 1995 graduates

General information about the 1995 Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo, and the Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Pageant appears inside.

The 21st edition of the annual tribal reunion will begin with the crowning of the 1995-96 Miss Mvskoke Nation June 15. The Festival begins in full June 16, 17, 18.

This year's Festival committee includes: Woody Anderson; Gerri Berryhill; Ken Factor; Henry Harjo; Dana Johnson; Phyllis Warrington; and James Wind.

Second Chief Crow column

by Second Chief Shelly Crow

In loving memory of John L. Crow IV and all other children of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who have been lost in death. I would like to share the following poem with you. This poem was given to us by a friend who has also lost a child. It comforts me to read it and I hope it will do the same for you.

Of all the ones we hate to lose,
That brings our deepest sorrow,
We hate to lose our young the most,
For they are our tomorrow.
Our hopes, our dreams, our future lives,
The heritage we plan to give,
So carefully guarded then passed on,
So they might happily live.
The focus of many yesterdays
that passed so quickly by,
no one will ever ready be
for their dear child to die.
Death shatters our very being,
should never happen thus.
It's always happened to someone else.
Now that someone is us.
It may come to fast, may come slow.
It comes in so many ways.
It leaves a hurt that never heals,
and endless, empty days.
God did not tell us to forget
the ones so near in our heart,
but helps to soothe the deep-felt loss
while we must be apart.
A life without sorrow, full of joy,
no promise to us was given,
just God's grace to see us through,
till we meet again in heaven.
And so we travel, down life's vague path,
facing its challenges each day.
Lifting our heads whenever we can,
trading smiles to lighten our way.

My family and I want to thank everyone for their prayers, flowers, cards, food, and all the many things you have done to support us during this most difficult time in our lives. Your acts of kindness have been of great comfort and we want you to know how very much we appreciate all you have done.

We ask that you continue to hold us in your prayers as only the Creator, time, and the many wonderful memories, will see us through our sorrow.

Editor's note: John Crow IV was killed in an automobile accident. His funeral was April 26. His obituary appears on page 10.

Clarification

The filing fees for Muscogee Nation principal chief and second chief are \$400 and \$250, respectively. The fees were reported incorrectly in the April edition of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

Letters to the editor

Citizen grateful for assistance

Editor:

I would like to extend my gratitude to the Muscogee Nation Higher Education Department for their financial support during my college education. The Muscogee Nation supports all of its citizens in achieving the best education possible and for this I am grateful. Now, I can justify their support and the support of the Indian Health Service by giving back to the Indian community the knowledge and service that is required of me. I hope to make a difference in heightening the healthcare of Indians. Mvto.

Valerie Bartmess, Norman

Church member expresses gratitude

Editor:

The pastor and members of Davis Chapel United Methodist Church wish to express our sincere thank you to all of those who made our fund raising dinner a success.

A special mvto to Marie Crittendon, Mabelle Washington, Hedy Dearstone, and Pastor David Wilde for wading in mud and water to dig for wild onions. Also, mvto to Barbara Gillespie and Peggy Chalakee for furnishing our fry bread, biscuits, and tvklik tokse.

Your prayers and continued support will enable us to raise our church building up from its burnt ruins.

Come and worship our Creator with us when you are in and near Coweta. Sunday services begin at 11 a.m. and Wednesday services begin at 7 p.m.

Hedy Dearstone, Broken Arrow

Council representative says thanks

Editor:

I would like to thank voters and absentee voters for their support during the election to fill McIntosh District Seat A. I would like to thank those that contributed their time and resources to my campaign. Mvto.

Tommy Pickering, Eufaula

Council representative responds to letter

Editor:

I am responding to the Okfuskee District Representative Wynema Roberts's letter appearing in the April edition of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

Rep. Roberts accuses members of the National Council of forgetting who elected us and discriminating against our own people by voting not to override Principal Chief Bill Fife's veto of NCA 95-02. That bill asked for \$600,000 for services for the people from a lawsuit settlement between the Muscogee Nation and Indian Country U.S.A.

I cast the deciding vote not to override Fife's veto. I argued on the floor to let the veto stand. I wish to explain my vote and rebut Roberts's claims.

I have not forgotten who elected me. I work for the people every day as a member of the National Council. The bill was not a good bill.

First, she did not send the bill through the proper procedures. It should have been assigned first to the community service and cultural committee which would have made certain the bill was written correctly. The committee would make a recommendation and,

since the bill involves money, we would refer it to the business and governmental operations committee. It is their job to see if the tribe has the funding and to see the most important bills get funded first. We have bills that have been recommended by committees and we cannot act on them because we lack money. Some have been waiting for funding since last summer. Should representative Robert's bill have priority over those other bills. Though the services Roberts planned to fund with her bill are important, there might be more important services that have not been funded and are waiting for funding.

Her bill asked for \$600,000 but does not demonstrate the need for it.

The community service committee has the job of determining if the need for additional funds is there. That committee would call in the department director scheduled to get the funds from her bill and have the director provide justification. We don't want to appropriate money to a department which already has enough money when there are other pressing needs for it.

Language in the bill states "there will be no eligibility guidelines for these programs" and "those persons on waiting lists for these programs shall be served before new applications can be filed."

These sections are obviously in conflict. In order to get on a waiting list, a person had to meet guidelines. In her letter she accuses those of us who agreed with the veto of discriminating against our people. The bill would discriminate against the people simply because they didn't apply first. This is discrimination.

Roberts states, "The best way we can help our people is to draft legislation directing the

please see **LETTERS...**, page 12

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

James Wolfe, managing editor
Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff writer

Council approves 1995 comprehensive budget

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council approved the fiscal year 1995 comprehensive budget at its April regular session.

The 36-member tribal legislature passed NCA 95-21 by 31-2 margin.

Those voting for passage were: Duke Harjo, Phyllis Warrington, and Earl Wheeler, Creek Dist.; Darrell Coachman, Tim Fife, Dwayne Lowe and Thomas Yahola, Tukvptce Dist.; Wilbur Gouge, Sandy McIntosh, Thomas McIntosh, Tom Pickering, and Yahola Townsend, McIntosh Dist.; Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, and Frances Pease, Muskogee Dist.; Clyde Johnson and Bruce Smith, Okfuskee Dist.; A.D. Ellis, Anderson Hale, Jim Harjo, Dave Lewis, Charlie Litsey, Peggy Lyda, and David Nichols, Okmulgee Dist.; Perry Beaver, Larry Bible, Jesse Kelley, Earl King, and Edwin Moore, Tulsa Dist.; and Richard Berryhill and Barbara Gillespie, Wagoner-Mayes-Rogers Dist.

Voting against the passage were: Mae Jackson and Wynema Roberts, Okfuskee Dist.

Absent were: Leah Jack, Creek Dist.; and Irene Cleghorn, Tulsa Dist. Speaker Steve Bruner conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In other business, the Council:

— failed (22-12) to override a veto of NCA 95-25, a bill amending legislation related NCA 94-10. Voting for the override were: Coachman and Yahola, Tukvptce Dist.; Gouge, S. McIntosh, T. McIntosh, and Townsend, McIntosh Dist.; Pease, Muskogee Dist.; Jackson, Johnson, and Roberts, Okfuskee Dist.; Ellis, Hale, Lewis, Litsey, Lyda, and Nichols, Okmulgee Dist.; Beaver, Bruner, Kelley, and Moore, Tulsa Dist.; and Berryhill and Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.

Voting against the override were: Harjo, Warrington, and Wheeler, Creek Dist.; Fife and Lowe, Tukvptce Dist.; Pickering, McIntosh Dist.; Chupco and Coker, Muskogee Dist.; Smith, Okfuskee Dist.; Harjo, Okmulgee Dist.; and Bible and King, Tulsa Dist.;

— voted (25-9) to override NCA 95-27, a bill repealing the contract of tribal health administrator Ed Mouss. Voting against the override were: Wheeler, Creek Dist.; Coachman, Fife, and Lowe, Tukvptce Dist.; Chupco, Muskogee Dist.; Roberts and Smith, Okfuskee Dist.; Lewis, Okmulgee Dist.; and King, Tulsa Dist.

— voted (22-11) to confirm Susan Harjo of Tulsa

to the Gaming Operations Authority Board. Voting against confirmation were: Warrington and Wheeler, Creek Dist.; Gouge and Pickering, McIntosh Dist.; Chupco and Coker, Muskogee Dist.; Roberts, Okfuskee Dist.; Bible, King, and Moore, Tulsa Dist.; and Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.;

— approved unanimously (33-0) a resolution recognizing Muscogee citizen Eric Beatty, a senior at Okmulgee High School, as an outstanding student;

— approved (17-16) a resolution requesting the resignation of Wendell Bigpond from the tribal health systems board. Voting for the resolution were: Coachman, Fife, and Lowe, Tukvptce Dist.; S. McIntosh and T. McIntosh, McIntosh Dist.; Chupco, Muskogee Dist.; Jackson, Johnson, Roberts, and Smith, Okfuskee Dist.; Ellis, Hale, and Lyda, Okmulgee Dist.; Bible and King, Tulsa Dist.; and Berryhill and Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Dist.;

— approved unanimously a resolution denouncing the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City;

— voted unanimously to establish the Neil Campbell Memorial Scholarship Fund;

— voted unanimously to approve a budget modification for the food distribution program;

— approved unanimously (31-0) a bill amending NCA 95-20 to clarify school clothing funding. Not voting were: Wheeler, Creek Dist.; and Fife, Tukvptce Dist.;

— approved (28-5) a proposed amendment to the tribal constitution to reduce the number of Council representatives. A referendum is expected to be within 90 days. Voting against the bill were: Gouge, S. McIntosh, T. McIntosh, Pickering, and Townsend, McIntosh Dist.;

— approved unanimously (33-0) authorization for the principal chief to negotiate a land purchase of the

Hillabee Ceremonial Ground;

— approved unanimously (33-0) a \$5,000 appropriation for the Morris town volunteer fire department for the purchase equipment;

Yahola to complete term as speaker

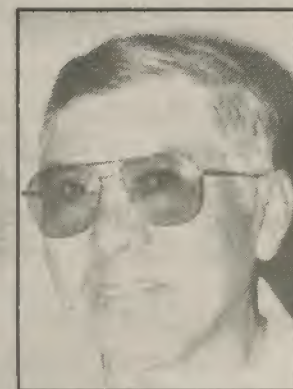
OKMULGEE — Tukvptce District representative Thomas Yahola will complete the 1994-95 legislative term as speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

He assumes the leadership position from Steve Bruner who resigned the position April 29.

Yahola, of Wetumka, was the second speaker before being named the 36-member tribal legislature's leader. A retiree from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, he served one term (1990-1991) as a representative. Most recently, he coordinated the effort to rename his district.

Wilbur Gouge, of Eufaula, was selected second speaker. Gouge is serving his first term as a McIntosh District representative. Most recently, he sponsored legislation to purchase land for Hillabee Ceremonial Ground.

Bruner will complete his first full-term as a Tulsa District representative. He won a 1993 special election to complete the term of former executive



Yahola

— approved unanimously (33-0) to appropriate funding for graduate and undergraduate book allowances;

— approved (31-2) a proposed amendment to the tribal constitution that to exclude any citizen convicted of a felony within 10 years at the time of candidacy filing. Voting against the proposal were: Jackson and Johnson, Okfuskee Dist.;

— approved unanimously (33-0) an authorization for the Eufaula dormitory to use interest generated from its Bureau of Indian Affairs account;

— approved unanimously (33-0) an authorization for the tribal communications department to use enterprise funds for equipment acquisition;

— approved (29-4) an authorization for the farm authority board to lease tribal property to Gary Gray for one year. Voting against the lease were: Gouge, S. McIntosh, T. McIntosh, and Townsend, McIntosh Dist.; and

— approved unanimously (33-0) the nominees for the 1995 Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo executive committee.

Notices

Minerals royalty owners meeting

CANADIAN — The 1995 Bureau of Indian Affairs Minerals Management Service conference for Indian oil and gas royalty owners will begin with an open session at 9 a.m., May 17 at Arrowhead Lodge.

The session is for royalty owners having problems with payments or leases. A general session will begin at 1 p.m.

All royalty owners wanting to discuss related issues with these federal agencies are invited. For more information, call 1 (800) 238-1943.

National Indian tennis championship

SEMINOLE — The North American Indian Tennis Association will host the national tournament May 27, 28, and 29. The tournament will offer singles, doubles competition for a variety of age categories for men and women. Any Indian able to verify descent is eligible. For more information, contact Bruce Harjo, tournament director, at (405) 382-9950 or (405) 382-6334 after 5 p.m.

U.S. Supreme Court hears tax case

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court heard the arguments of both sides in a tax case regarding

the Chickasaw's avowed exemption from Oklahoma's motor fuel taxes. The Chickasaw's base their exemption on an 1830 treaty with the federal government. The Oklahoma Tax Commission sued the Chickasaw Nation in 1991 over the motor fuel taxes and had a federal district court rule in their favor.

The 10th Circuit of Appeals in Denver overturned the decision, however, in favor of the Chickasaw Nation. The tax commission then appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Arguments were presented April 24. A decision is expected to be issued in June.

In brief

Fire safety poster contest

OKMULGEE — Creek Nation Housing Authority is sponsoring the 1995 fire safety poster contest for children residing in mutual help homes or resident communities of the housing authority.

Event coordinator Karen Mackey said all participants will receive a participation prize for entering the contest. The rules are:

- poster must be accompanied with a completed entry form attached to the back;
- all posters must have a fire safety message;
- children in kindergarten through the eighth grade are eligible to submit one poster each;
- entries must be original and created by the child using crayon, markers, or brush paint. Posters drawn with pencil will not be accepted;
- entries should not exceed 11 and one-half by 14 inches in size. It is recommended that the poster be drawn on smaller paper;
- all posters will become the property of Amerind Risk Management Corporation;
- deadline to submit posters is June 30; and
- only the top three winners of the regional contest will be submitted to the national level of competition.

The purpose of the contest is to raise community awareness of fire hazards and how to avoid fire. For more information, contact Mackey at: (918) 756-9562; or 1 (800) 259-5050 or write: CNHA, P.O. Box 297, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

CNHA offers contractors' seminar

OKMULGEE — Creek Nation Housing Authority is offering a seminar for American Indian contractors and subcontractors beginning at 10 a.m., May 18 at the independent agencies (mound) auditorium at the tribal capitol complex at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

"Anyone that is a contractor or subcontractor or that would like to be one, is encouraged to attend this seminar," said Ken Childers, chair of the CNHA board of commissioners. "We need skilled contractors for construction and rehabilitation work on our properties. We also want to expand the opportunities for citizens and, in particular, residents of [housing authority] apartments and homes."

The seminar is open and admission is free. For more information, contact the housing authority at (918) 756-8504 or 1 (800) 259-5050.

Muscogee Nation WIC program

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program is now providing services to Eufaula, Okemah, and Okmulgee areas. The program has operating been in the Sapulpa area since October and is anticipating further expansion.

The program provides nutrition education, vouchers for nutritious supplemental foods, and health services referrals to participants and is available to pregnant, postpartum, and breast-feeding mothers, infants, and children up to age 5.

Infants on the program receive appropriate formula, cereal, and juices. Women and children receive: forti-

fied milk and or cheese; eggs; hot or cold cereals high in iron; fruit and vegetable juices high in vitamin C; and either peanut butter or dry beans and peas. Breast-feeding mothers may also receive: tuna; carrots; and peanut butter, dry beans and peas.

The federal program is available to all eligible persons. Participants now enrolled in other county or tribal WIC programs are welcome to transfer to the tribal program. Applicants must be screened by WIC or medical personnel who assess general health, history, weight, and blood tests. Tribal clinics provide medical support for Indian participants. Non-Indians receive medical support from county health departments or private physicians.

Muscogee Nation WIC screenings are held at:

- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 W. Forrest Ave., 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesdays;
- Okemah Indian Community Center, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesdays;
- Sapulpa Indian Community Center, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursdays; and
- Okmulgee Indian Health Center, 1313 East 20th St., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information, contact at (918) 758-2722.

Distribution site added

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Food Distribution Program will begin distributing surplus food items at Dustin Indian Community Center beginning at 9:30 a.m., May 9.

The program will be in Dustin on the second Tuesday of every month from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The schedule will be maintained as long as it is feasible. For more information, contact the program at (918) 756-3476.

Citizenship office clarification

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Citizenship office is issuing certificate degree of Indian blood (CDIB) cards. New issues for CDIB and citizenship cards will take ten weeks. Replacement cards for either will take two weeks and cost \$5 each. For more information, contact the citizenship board at (918) 756-8700.

Johnson appointed to council

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee citizen Scott Johnson has been appointed to the Oklahoma Council on Violence Prevention. The council is composed of twenty-five voting members appointed by the commissioners of health and public safety. The membership consists of representatives from several agencies to include cabinet secretaries, department directors, and the chancellor of higher education.

The purpose of the council is to organize resources and facilitate cooperation between various state agencies and other entities that are responsible for issues related to violence, to make priority recommendations to state agencies, and to make an annual report to the



photo by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee Nation Manufacturing Enterprises received a \$78,000 Bureau of Indian Affairs grant for the expansion of its facility. Presenting the grant to Principal Chief Bill Fife, center, is Jimmy Gibson, BIA Okmulgee Agency Superintendent, left, and Teasie McCrary Jr., BIA loan specialist.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Fannie Barnett and Ruby Coates, both of Dewar, and Pat Wildcat of Sapulpa, take notes as they receive nutritional counseling at Camp Cumpvlke V. The annual diabetic camp, held at St. Crispins, is coordinated by the tribe's health administration.

governor, and other elected officials about violence prevention.

Johnson was formerly the manager of the division of children and family services administration and is now serving as the social-human development planner for the tribe.

Notice of proposal

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is seeking a \$750,000 block grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide an infrastructure to promote economic development.

The proposed infrastructure will support the development of a tribal enterprise which will create employment for tribal members.

Public comment is invited. Direct comments and inquiries may be sent to: Steve Landsberry, community development, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Comments will be accepted through May 10.

The tribe is competing against other tribes in Louisiana, Kansas, Texas, and Oklahoma for the funds.

Births and birthdays

Jeffery Scott Beaver

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Jeffery Scott Beaver was born to Kerry and Sandy Beaver. The baby weighed 5 pounds, 13 ounces at birth. Grandparents are Barbara and Vance Beaver of Kinder, La. Great-grandparents are the late Stella and Amos Beaver of Broken Arrow.



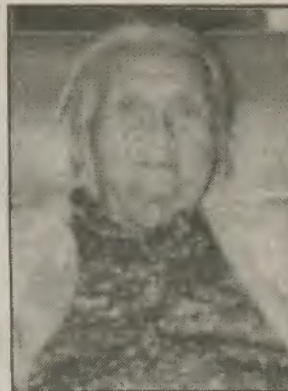
Beaver

Hattie Brown Harjo

WELEETKA — Muscogee citizen Hattie Brown Harjo observed her 93rd birthday May 12.

She married the late Buddie Harjo March 21, 1919 in Holdenville. Together they had 14 children. She has 52 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

"Hattie still gets up and around. When she feels good, she sews," said Louise Harjo Fish, her daughter.



Harjo

Family observes March birthdays

SCHULTER — Pauline Pakoska Billy and Thomas and Elise Berryhill celebrated their birthdays during a family dinner held March 26.

The dinner was held at the home of Billy — her father's original allotment — with many family members attending.

Billy was born in the Schuler area on March 23, 1913 to Noah and Evelyn Martin Pakoska. She is Hvlptvlke and belongs to Kussetah Tribal Town. She is a member of Honey Creek United Methodist Church, the Northeast District Senior Methodists, and Northeast District United Meth-

odist Women. Billy maintains a camp house at Honey Creek also. As she reads and writes the Mvskoke language fluently, she has taught classes at chartered Creek community centers. Highly skilled in Mvskoke culinary arts, she enjoys cooking, spending time with her family, friends, and church members.

Mr. Berryhill was born on his father's allotment in the Sharp area on March 24, 1913 to Joseph and Annie Kanard Berryhill. He is Hotvlkulke and belongs to Thlopthlocco Tribal Town. He is a member of Honey Creek United Methodist Church and the Northeast District Senior Methodists. He resides on his mother's allotment in Wilson Community. He enjoys reading the Bible and attending churches of all denominations.

Ms. Berryhill was born on March 21, 1966 to Mike Berryhill and JoAnn Skaggs. She belongs to Ocevp Ofv Tribal Town. She attends The University of Oklahoma and is completing her second year of doctoral studies in counseling psychology. She is the granddaughter of Berryhill and his wife, the late Blanche Pakoska Berryhill and the late Drennon and May Bell Hawkins Skaggs.



T. Berryhill, Billy, and E. Berryhill

Society briefs

Citizen chosen little Miss Indian OKC

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee citizen Erica Lowe has been chosen the Little Miss Indian Oklahoma City.

The West Elementary third-grader is an honor student. She is active in tap and jazz dancing. Lowe also models for Dillard's department stores.

Lowe is the daughter of Frank and Karon Lowe. Paternal grandparents are Rev. John and Eliza Lowe. Maternal grandmother is Lawana Brown.



Lowe

Citizen named curator

OKMULGEE — Muscogee citizen Yolanda Elaine Childers has been named curator-director for the Creek Council House Museum.

Childers received her bachelor of arts degree in English with an emphasis on traditional and contemporary Indian literature from the University of California at Los Angeles. She received her master's degree in folklore and mythology from UCLA also. Childers plans to complete her Ph.D. through UCLA.

She is the daughter of World War II hero Lt. Col.

Ernest and Ladena Chadwell Childers of Broken Arrow.

Muscogee student named to all-conference

WELEETKA — Muscogee citizen Andrea Frye has been selected to the East Central Conference All-Conference First Team. The 17-year-old Weleetka High School junior averaged 25.1 points per game for the 19-7 Lady Outlaws basketball team. Frye also maintains a 3.6 grade point average.

"This is really her first year to play high school ball," said her coach, Garland Pennington. "She had knee surgery two years ago. She is quite an athlete."

She is the daughter of Max and Janice Frye and granddaughter of Sam and Susanna Marshall, all of Weleetka.

Muscogee author is finalist

LOS ANGELES — Muscogee citizen and poetess Joy Harjo was a finalist for the 1995 Pen Center USA West literary award for collection of poems

The collection is entitled "The Woman Who Fell From the Sky," (W.W. Norton). This is Harjo's first time to be published by a major publisher. It has been



Frye

reported that Norton intends to reissue her works. Harjo is an instructor at University of New Mexico.

Hawkins family

STIDHAM — The Hawkins family reunion will begin at 10 a.m., May 27 at the Hawkins Family Cemetery. The day's meal will be served at Little Coweta Baptist Church. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish and drink if possible.

For more information, contact one of the following: Rev. Gary Hawkins, (405) 275-3087; Charles Skaggs, (918) 473-6718; James Skaggs, (405) 721-4566; Joyce Skaggs Bailey, (405) 677-3818.

Smith family

LAMAR — The Smith family reunion will be May 27 at Middle Creek #1. All family members are asked to bring a covered dish. For more information, contact Mark Smith at: P.O. Box 235, Dustin, OK 74859 or Minnie Smith Long at 2167 E. 3rd P.W., Holdenville, OK 74848.

Wacoche family

TAHLEQUAH — The ninth annual Wacoche Reunion will begin at 10 a.m., May 27 at Tahlequah. To get to the reunion go three miles on state highway 10 to U.S. Highway 62. Follow to Ben George Road to Midwestern Nursery.

Family members are asked to bring a covered dish, lawn chairs, and cameras. For more information, contact Jean Wacoche (no collect calls) at (918) 456-2874.

Muscogee Graduates

Summer Barnes
Hartshorne High
School
Grandparents: Lela
and the late Tho-
mas Barnes
Other: member,
Future Homemak-
ers of America
Future plans:
undecided



Valene Bartmess
University of
Oklahoma
bachelor of Sci-
ence, nursing
Parents: Kessler
Bigpond Jr. and
Josephine Benally
Grandparents:
paternal, Lucy and
Kessler Bigpond
Sr.; maternal,
Descheeni and the
late Nedesbah Benally
Other: 3.4 GPA; Indian Health Service health
professions scholarship; Oklahoma Student
Nurses Assoc.; Oklahoma Nurses Assoc.;
Native American Society; member, Choska
United Methodist Church
Future plans: IHS employment; pursuing
master's degree



Jason Tyler
Beaver
Coweta High
School
Parents: Mr. and
Mrs. James Wid-
ener
Grandparents:
paternal, Mr. and
Mrs. James E.
Widener; maternal,
Mr. and Mrs. Don
Kirkland
Future plans: attending Oklahoma State
University-Okmulgee and major in automo-
tive technology



Lekapv Bell
Shawnee High
School
Parents: Kelly and
Esther Bell
Grandparents:
paternal, Nettie
and the late Harry
Bell; maternal,
Lucille Bear
Other: 6-year band
member, clarinet;
Shawnee High
School Color Guard; Spanish club; co-
president, Temple Baptist Church youth
activities
Future plans: attending Oklahoma State
University and major in agriculture



Christopher
Chastain
Wetumka High
School
Parents: Shelton
and Nelda
Chastain
Grandparents:
paternal, Clark and
Nellie Chastain;
maternal, Jimmy
and Susie Winters
Other: salutatorian;
University of Oklahoma College of Engineer-
ing scholarship; OU Distinguished Alumni
scholarship; university scholar scholarship
Future plans: attend Oklahoma University
and major in engineering



Laurie Jean Cully
University of
California at Los
Angeles
bachelor of arts in
ethnomusicology
Parents: Rose
Cully of Vista,
Calif., and Eugene
Cully of Hewitt,
Texas
Grandparents:
paternal, Lavina
Lowe and the late Noma Cully; maternal,
Velma King and the late Roy Hicks
Other: member, UCLA Bruin Marching Band;
employed with attorneys Cheleden,
Cheleden, and Glickman



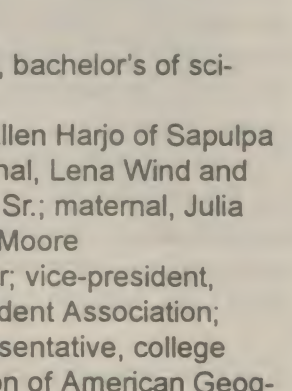
Patricia Jean
Fields
Glenpool High
School
Parents: Cheri
Haney and Ira
Fields
Grandparents:
paternal, the late
Ira Fields and
Marie Maytubby
Fields; maternal,
Pauline James
Haney and the late Charles Sherrell
Other: 1994-95 Glenpool Heritage Club
Princess; homecoming powder puff football;
newspaper staff; yearbook staff; member,
Glenpool Creek Indian Community
Future plans: attending Tulsa Junior College
and majoring in journalism



Gina Gruenwald
Bixby High School
Parents: the late
George Gruenwald
and Diane and
Randy Osborn
Grandparents:
paternal, Virginia
and the late Bill
Gruenwald; mater-
nal, Bill and Sarah
McClain
Other: Fellowship
of Christian Athletes; Spanish club; Students
Against Drunk Driving; Future Business
Leaders of America; 1993, 1994 Metro
Lakes All-Conference softball; 1994 all-state
softball; 1995 all-conference basketball;
Future plans: attending Northeastern State
University, Tahlequah, majoring in pre-law
and playing collegiate softball



Laura Lea Harjo
University of Kansas, bachelor's of sci-
ence in geography
Parents: Duke and Ellen Harjo of Sapulpa
Grandparents: paternal, Lena Wind and
the late Jim B. Harjo Sr.; maternal, Julia
Hardridge and Virgil Moore
Other: dean's scholar; vice-president,
Native American Student Association;
undergraduate representative, college
assembly; Association of American Geog-
raphers Talented Minority Program; Kan-
sas University Endowment Foundation;
Bureau of Indian Affairs Geographic Data
Service Center; employed with Geo-
graphic Information Systems Tech,
Johnson County, Kan.
Future plans: attending KU graduate
school of architecture and urban design to
pursue a degree in urban planning



Muscogee Graduates

Mary Harjo
University of
Oklahoma
bachelor of arts,
social work
Parents: the late
Amos Barney
Harjo and Lizzie
Harjo;
Other: OU arts and
sciences scholar-
ship; Passage to
Progress scholar-
ship; upper class achievers scholarship;
A.R. Larason Public Service Scholarship;
student representative, school of social work
affirmative action comm.; member, school of
social work undergraduate assc.; president,
American Indian Student Social Work Assc.
Future plans: to obtain employment in which
degree can be used to assist Indian people



Wakota Hayes
Coweta High
School
Parents: Senora
Jones and Charlie
Hayes
Grandparents:
paternal, Bill and
Bea Baldrige of
Tulsa; maternal,
Diana and the late
Homer Jones of
Lamar
Other: Students Against Drunk Driving; four-
year letter winner; Metro Lakes All-Confer-
ence Softball; all-district softball; Tara
Woodward Memorial (Tiger) Award for sports-
manship and citizenship
Future plans: not listed



Gregory Thomas
Leffler
Mounds High
School
Parents: Elmer and
Cynthia Leffler
Grandparents:
paternal, Juanita
Leffler of Mounds;
maternal, Mr. and
Mrs. Jesse
Watashe of
Sapulpa
Other: MHS baseball Rookie of the Year;
science academic award
Future plans: attending Tulsa Junior Col-
lege and majoring in business



Dianna D. Lewis
Oklahoma State
University at
Okmulgee, associ-
ate of arts degree,
jewelry technology
Parents: Elmer
and Dr. Jane S.
Burgess
Grandparents:
paternal, Lois and
the late Carranza
C. Burgess; mater-
nal, the late Stella and Timothy E. Blaylock
Other: married to Richard Lewis; two chil-
dren; registrar's honor roll; watchmakers and
jewelers club; outstanding graduate award,
jewelry technology; Phi Theta Kappa Inter-
national Honor Society
Future plans: to start own business in
jewelry repair and custom design



Cory A. Miller
Coweta High
School
Parents: Ann
Rogers
Grandparents:
maternal, James
and Dorothy
Sawyer
Other: volleyball;
football; coaching
little league base-
ball; learning
Mvskoke language; deacon in training at
Cedar Creek Baptist Church
Future plans: attending college and majoring
in criminal justice



Andrea Lee Smith
Edmond Memorial
High School
Parents: John and
Grace Smith
Grandparents:
maternal, Harmon
and Anna Lee
Wiley of Miami
Other: music
scholarship, Penn
State University;
American Indian
Art Association Scholarip; band; orchestra;
jazz band; National Honor Society; soloist,
all state orchestra; principal flute, 1995 all-
state orchestra; Who's Who Among Ameri-
can High School Students
Future plans: attending Penn State Univer-
sity and majoring in flute performance or
music education



Isaac Troy Warren
Choctaw High
School
Parents: John N.
and Susan E.
Warren
Grandparents:
maternal, Glen and
Betty Padgett of
Oklahoma City
Other: 3.9 GPA;
Who's Who
Among American
High School Students; academic all-Ameri-
can; Mu Alpha Theta; academic team; peer
tutor; three-year letter winner, soccer; two-
year letter winner, cross country; freshman
scholar-athlete of the year; four years,
soccer club clinician
Future plans: attending Saint Louis Univer-
sity and walking on the varsity soccer team



Crystal Dawn
Wegley
Cleveland High
School
Parents: Kathy
Guthrie and Bobby
Wegley
Grandparents:
maternal, Cogee
and Walter Keith
Other: 3.8 GPA;
National Honor
Society; student
council; Key Club; Fellowship of Christian
Athletes; minority academic achievement
scholarship, Oklahoma State University
Future plans: attending OSU and majoring
in elementary education



Gina Wesley
Wetunka High
School
Parents: Lowell
Wesley
Grandparents:
paternal, Rev. and
Mrs. Jim Wesley
Other: varsity
basketball; varsity
softball; Indian
Club; Tiger Clan;
Wewokogee Tribal
Town
Future plans: working and attending college



Clastina Williams
Tulsa Junior College
associate of science in business
Parents: Danna Watkins
Grandparents: maternal, Danny Watkins
Other: dean's honor roll; fee waiver scholarship
Future plans: attending Langston University at the University Center at Tulsa and major in accounting



Darren Scott
Yahola
Hilldale High School
Parents: Beverly and Leon Yahola
Other: 3.49 GPA average; principal's honor roll; letter winner, basketball; letter winner, football; letter winner, baseball;
1995 HHS basketball outstanding leader; Green Country South All-Conference selection; Kiwanis All-Star Basketball selection; 1995 homecoming king
Future plans: attending Northeastern State University, Tahlequah



Community news

Eufaula Indian Community

EUFAULA — Eufaula Indian Community's elderly nutrition program observed Easter with a dinner and egg hunt for senior citizens April 14. Rev. Washie Lewis recovered the most eggs and received a jar of honey donated by Rev. Bill Clark.

- Table decorations of rabbits in Easter baskets filled with candy were awarded as door prizes. Receiving door prizes were: Sandy McIntosh; Jack Belcher; Gene Billings; and Lucille Warren.

- Recognition and gratitude are extended to Mille Colbert and Joe Francis for preparing and serving the meal and to *The Indian Journal* photographer J.D. Nichols. Also assisting were: Belcher; James Charles; Queenie Colbert; Jerry Francis; Ginger Johnson; Kennan Phillips; Tom and Judith Pickering; and Gary Walker.

- The community received a new computer from the AT&T Pioneer philanthropic group in the memory of Melissa Cosar Douglas, Susie Cosar Scott, and Jackson Lewis.

Smith named to Boys State

MASON — Muscogee citizen Elton Smith has been selected to attend the 1995 Boys State camp.

Boys state is an exercise in municipal and state government sponsored by the American Legion.

The senior-to-be at Mason High School is active in basketball, baseball, and the Indian club. Smith is the son of Randolph and Laverne Smith of Mason.



Smith



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Okmulgee High School senior Eric Beatty was presented a plaque during the April regular session of the National Council in recognition of his outstanding high school basketball career. He recently signed to play basketball for Connors State College in Warner. He is the son of George Beatty of Anadarko and the late Karen Long. His grandparents are the late Thomas and Mattie Long. Pictured is Beatty with his great uncle, cousin, and aunts. Front — Rev. Harry Long, Beatty, and Rev. Dave Long Jr., back — Thomasine Long, Sidney Long, Vicky Watashe, Lou Ann Messer, Minnie Wolfe.

Okmulgee health center director named

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Division of Health Administration Chief Medical Officer David Rico, D.O., will serve as facility director for the Muscogee Nation Okmulgee Health Center.

The 12,655-square foot facility houses the expanded dental clinic and will have a family medical clinic, children's clinic, and contract health services. The opening of the latter three is still pending.

Rico will personally be administering health care to patients through the center's general medical clinic.

Other staff include: Monica Kidwell, D.O., pediatrician; Doug White, DDS, MPH, chief dental officer; Betty Brown, RN; Penny Hill, office manager; and Lydia Brown and Sharon Whitecloud, medical records clerks.

The facility is at 1313 E. 20th St. — just west of Okmulgee Memorial Hospital.



Rico

The Native American Law Enforcement Association Oklahoma Chapter held its monthly meeting at the Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex recently. Pictured from left are chapter officers: Tony Pratt, Concho Bingo Hall Director of Security; Harvey Pratt, Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation; John Whitekiller, Oklahoma City Police Department; Carla Cantrell, Muscogee Nation Lighthorse; Allen Foster, Hughes County Investigator; and Jim Wellman, U.S. Marshall.



photo by Jim Wolfe



Members of the Mason High School Indian Education Scholastic Team prepare for another round of questions at the Native American Challenge Bowl. Pictured from left to right: Alisa Douglas; John Sands; Paul Harjochee; Jess Harjochee; and Dereck West.

photo by Jim Wolfe

Olympics committee to hold meetings to assist coaches in coordinating

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation olympics will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., June 16 at Harmon Stadium.

All Indian students ages six through 15 may participate upon provision of Certificate Degree of Indian Blood cards or tribal enrollment cards.

All participating youth teams must register with the olympics committee by June 1.

The softball throw, long jump, and hoop shoot require the names and ages of individual participants.

Events and age categories include:

- **six and seven years** — 30 and 50 meter dash, 400 meter relay, and softball throw;
 - **eight and nine years** — 50, 100, and 200 meter dash, 400 meter relay, long jump, and softball throw;
 - **10 and 11 years** — 50, 100, 200 meter dash, 400 meter relay, long jump, and softball throw;
 - **12 and 13 years** — 100 and 200 meter dash, 400 meter run, 400 meter relay, hoop shooting, and long jump;
 - **14 and 15 years** — 100 and 200 meter dash, 400 meter run, and 400 meter relay.
- tug of war will be held for all four age groups. A subcommittee of the Creek Festival, the olympics committee has scheduled meetings to be held with team coaches. They will be held at 6:30 p.m., May 17 and June 1 in the Solomon McCombs Executive Office Building, Bureau of Indian Affairs Conference Room, tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.
- For more information, call: Georgeann DeLaune, (918) 756-4333; Diane Randall, (918) 756-8700, ext. 350; or Henry Harjo, (918) 756-8700, ext. 381.

Festival golf tournament to be held at Arrowhead State Golf Course

CANADIAN — The Creek Festival Golf Tournament will be held June 16 through 18 at Arrowhead State Park Golf Course.

The entry fee is \$50 — includes two-day green fees and luncheon. Only cash will be accepted.

Flights include: men's championship, A, B, C, and D; men's senior championship, A and B; and women's championship, A and B.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the top finish-

- **14 and 15 years** — 100 and 200 meter

Committee seeks young ladies for Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation 1995-96

OKMULGEE — The Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Pageant will officially kick-off the 21st Annual Creek Festival and Rodeo at 7 p.m., June 15.

Judging

The pageant committee is planning for the pageant and is encouraging interested, young, Creek ladies to apply.

Contestants will be judged on performance in the following six categories: essay; interview; poise and personality; traditional dress; talent; and impromptu question.

Orientation

The interview category questions will be based on information obtained by required contestant attendance at an orientation on tribal government and culture. The orientation will begin at 10 a.m., June 3 in the independent agencies (mound) auditorium at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Following lunch, a presentation on poise, as well as coaching on talent performance, will be given by renowned American Indian ballerina Moscelyn Larkin, Shawnee-Peoria.

Suzanne McIntosh, committee member and licensed cosmetologist, will provide color analysis following Larkin's presentation.

The pageant application, essay, and a photograph are due June 3. A photographer will be available to take pictures of the contestants following the orientation.

Interview

The interview category will consist of individual contestant questioning by five judges beginning at 10 a.m., June 10 at the Solomon McCombs Executive Office Building, administrative conference room, tribal capitol complex. Following the interviews, lunch and talent practice will be held in the independent agencies auditorium. Contestants

are instructed to arrive prepared; any props necessary for talent performance should be brought.

Pageant

The auditorium will be available for contestant use at 8 a.m., June 15. The pageant will begin at 7 p.m., June 15. A reception will be held for Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation 1995-96 following the pageant.

Requirements

To be eligible to enter the pageant, applicants must:

- be at least one-quarter blood, enrolled Muscogee;
- be between the ages of 16 and 21 by the pageant date;
- never married or have a child;
- live within Muscogee Nation boundaries;
- submit three letters of recommendation;
- submit a 500-word essay on why they are seeking the title;
- not cohabit before or during reign; and
- attend an orientation workshop on Muscogee government and culture.

Application

Applications may be obtained or returned to pageant committee chair Rita Williams at the administrative office of Muscogee Nation Okmulgee Head Start, tribal capitol complex.

Williams may also be contacted by calling (918) 756-8700, ext. 337 or (918) 652-7500 or writing: Attn. Rita Williams, Muscogee Nation, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Williams is encouraging tribal royalty, and former Muscogee Nation princesses and rodeo queens attend the pageant. She requests that they notify her of their attendance prior to the pageant date.

ers in each flight, longest drive, and closest to the hole contests.

Registration will be from noon to 4 p.m., June 16 and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 17. Qualifying tee time may be scheduled at individual's discretion on June 17. The qualifying round on June 18 will begin with an 8 a.m. shotgun start.

The scramble will be held at noon, June 16. Participants must pay their own \$20 green-cart fee with cash.

For more information, contact:

- Jim Burgess, (918) 756-1400;
- Harley Little, (918) 756-8700, ext. 271;
- Arrowhead Pro Shop, (918) 339-2769; or
- Arrowhead Lodge, 1 (800) 422-2711.

Creek Festival parade

OKMULGEE — The Creek Festival parade coordinator is soliciting parade entries from communities, churches, tribal towns, horse clubs, tribal princesses, representatives, and other interested individuals and groups.

First, second, and third place plaques will be awarded to winners in two contests:

- best overall individual; and
- best overall organization.

The 1995 Festival parade will run its course through downtown Okmulgee.

For more information, contact Curtis Hicks at (918) 756-8700, ext. 620.

Muscogee Nation obituaries

NAZIN "NATHAN" BILLY

HONEY CREEK — Funeral services for Rev. Nazin "Nathan" Billy were held April 3 at Honey Creek United Methodist Church with Revs. Jerry Byrd and John Lowe officiating.

A wake service was held April 2.

He was born Sept. 18, 1925 in Broken Bow to Watson and Sophie Henderson Billy. He died March 30 at Henryetta Medical Center after a long-suffered affliction with lung cancer.

He attended school in the Broken Bow area and lived there until joining the Army in 1943. He was a member of the 1023rd Engineer Treadway Bridge Battalion during World War II. He was honorably discharged in 1946.

He married Pauline Pakoska on April 30, 1954 in Idabel. They made their home in the Schuler area.

He was ordained as a deacon on June 14, 1970 at the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, Anadarko. He pastored Yahola Chapel, Tulsa, and Mutteloke United Methodist Church, Sapulpa. He was a member of Honey Creek United Methodist Church and the Northeast District Senior Methodists.

He retired from W.C. Norris and Dover Corporation, Tulsa, after 31 years of employment in the suckerrod department.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; sister; and four brothers, Bob Willis; Steven Billy Sr., Nick Billy, and John Vandiver.

He is survived by: his wife, of the home; and many nieces; and nephews.

Pallbearers were his nephews: David, James, John, Steven, Thomas, and Winston Billy.

Honorary pallbearers were: Thomas Berryhill Sr.; Woodrow Burgess; Charlie Coker; John Likowski; and Rev. Lowe.

Interment was in Westlawn Cemetery Soldiers Reserve, Henryetta.

JOHN LESTER CROW IV

BERRYHILL — Funeral services for John Lester Crow IV were held April 26 at Berryhill High School with Wilbur Gouge officiating.

He was born March 29, 1978 to John and Shelly Crow. He died April 22 in an automobile-pedestrian accident.

Crow was an honor student at Berryhill High School and a member of the school's Class 3A state champion wrestling team. He also played



Billy

football and was active in a number of civic and social organizations.

He was preceded in death by: his grandfathers, Everett Stubbs and Jim Vincent.

Survivors include: his parents; one sister, Leslie Crow Akin and her husband, Michael; grandparents, John and Ida Crow; a grandmother Doretha Vincent; three aunts, Rebecca Searle, Donna Powders, and Barbara Goodman.

Interment was in the Memorial Park Cemetery.

A memorial scholarship has been established in his name for a Berryhill High School student. Contributions can be made to the John Crow Memorial Scholarship, First National Bank, Henryetta, OK 74437.

CHARLES NARCOMNEY

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. — Funeral services for Charles Augustus Narcomey were held April 8 at Arkansas City Church of Christ.

He was born Dec. 7, 1912 around Bird Creek, near Holdenville, to Daniel and Rose Ann Williams Narcomey. He died April 4 at Arkansas City Memorial Hospital.

He was attended Chilocco Boarding School and served in the Chilocco National Guard. He married Virginia Nadeau on December 7, 1912 in Winfield, Kan. They lived on a farm in Kay County for 20 years before moving to Arkansas City in 1959.

Narcomey was a carpenter and farmer. He built the old Arkansas City Church of Christ and Newkirk Church of Christ. He coached little league baseball for several years. He was an avid fisher, hunter, and gardener and was a coon and bird dog trainer.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; two sons, John Charles Narcomey, Corona, Calif. and Randall Augustus Narcomey, Arkansas City; one daughter, Rosalie Palmer, Port Orchard, Wash.; one brother, Reed George, Anadarko; one sister, Emma Deere, Holdenville; ten grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; three brothers, George, Raymond, and Edmond; and one sister, Elizabeth.

He was interred in Parker Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be donated to Arkansas City Little League Baseball.

SANDY RANDALL

ARBEKA — Funeral services for Sandy Randall were held April 24 at Arbeka Baptist Church with Revs. John Lowe and Felix Tiger officiating.

He died April 19 at Tulsa Regional Medical Center. He was born to Timmy and Winey Fish Randall July 10, 1905 near Henryetta.

He attended Nuyaka Mission Boarding School. He served in the Army during World War II. After being discharged, he made his home west of Henryetta where he was a farmer for several years. He relocated to Weleetka and eventually settled in Okemah. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Arbeka Baptist Church.

Preceding him in death were: two daughters, Ella



Crow

Mae Combs and Pearl Resoff; two grandsons, Wallace Resoff and Alan Wayne Randall; two great-grandchildren, Ashley Dyan Golden and Mosey Lewis Randall; and a stepdaughter, Kathleen Webber.

Survivors include: two sons, Richard of Okemah and Sweeney of Texas; two daughters, Letha Dean of Oklahoma City and Juanita Mitchell of Okemah; a stepson, Russell Webber of California; and stepdaughter, Shirley Henshaw of Okmulgee; 13 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; four great-great grandchildren; along with several nieces; nephews; other relatives; and many friends.

GEORGE SMITH

EUFULA — Funeral services for George H. Smith were held April 4 at Black Funeral Home with Rev. Bill Barnett officiating.

He was born Nov. 11, 1912 in Eufaula to Joe and Mary Ashbury Smith.

Smith was a World War II veteran, a minister, and retired steel worker. He was affiliated with Okfuskee Baptist Church.

He is survived by: his wife, Rubye Menawa Smith; and sons, Ricardo, Jerome, John, Curtis, and Leslie; and one daughter, Myra; 14 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Interment was in Eufaula.

MARY SUMMERFIELD

TAHLEQUAH — Funeral services for Mary Helen Summerfield were held Feb. 23 in Hart Memorial Chapel with Rev. Ronnie Smallen officiating and Jimmy Layne assisting.

She died Feb. 20 at Tahlequah City Hospital. Summerfield was born Jan. 12, 1921 in Okmulgee County to Guy and Fannie Whitecotton.

She married Edd Summerfield on Nov. 30, 1946 in Siloam Springs, Ark. He died in 1982. A homemaker, she was a member of Tsa-La-Gi United Methodist Church, Jay and the United Methodist Women.

She is survived by one son, Eddie Lee Summerfield, Jay; two daughters, Anita G. Smith, Tahlequah, and Dorothy C. Summerfield, Martinez, Calif.; two sisters, Gladys Baker and Annie Mae O'Field, both of Bixby; three brothers, Lee and Rider Whitecotton, both Sand Springs, and Johnny Whitecotton of Haskell; five grandchildren, Brian, Adrienne, and Jana Smith, Monte Price, Gretchen Johnson, two great-grandchildren, Allison and Chelsey Johnson; and a host of loved ones; and friends.

Interment was in Round Springs Cemetery.

ANNA WATASHE

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Anna Lou Watashe were held March 2 at Wetumka Indian Baptist Church with Revs. Darrell Seeley and Alex Buck officiating.

She was born July 13, 1956 at Wetumka to Dario and Suzie Lasley Martinez. She died Feb. 27 in an automobile accident in Bixby.

She was raised in Wetumka and attended the local school system until her senior year, at which time she transferred to and graduated from Eufaula Boarding School. She attended Oklahoma State Technical School, Okmulgee, where she received secretarial training.

please see OBITUARIES..., page 11

Churches slate revivals, senior Methodists to hold annual campmeeting

Salt Creek schedules revival, singing

WETUMKA — Salt Creek United Methodist is holding a revival May 10 through 12.

The services will begin at seven nightly.

A Mother's Day service will be held at 11 a.m., May 14 with Rev. George Doyle, Coweta, delivering the message.

From Wetumka, the church is located seven miles west on state highway nine and two miles south or from Holdenville — eight miles north on state highway 48, two miles east and two miles south.

Indian Fellowship Baptist to hold revival

OAKHURST — Indian Fellowship Baptist Church is holding a revival May 15 through 19.

The evangelist is Rev. Mitchell Taylor, Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m. nightly.

Rev. William Alexander is the church pastor.

The church is located at 6130 S. 58th W. Ave — one block west of Turner Turnpike toll plaza.

Concharty to host seniors annual camp

TWIN HILLS — Concharty United Methodist Church is hosting the Northeast District Senior Methodists annual campmeeting. May 19 through 21

A tentative agenda includes:

• **May 19** — 4 p.m., registration and fellowship; 5 p.m., supper; 7 p.m., welcome by pastor David Wilde; service;

• **May 20** — 7 a.m., sunrise service; breakfast; morning service; lunch; members display of old-time clothing; evening service; and

• **May 21** — 7 a.m., sunrise service; breakfast; communion service, dinner, afternoon memorial service for members that have passed away over the last year.

The church is located four miles north of state highway 16 on Bixby Road and one mile east.

Reunion to be held at Haikey Chapel

BROKEN ARROW — Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church members will hold a weekend-long church reunion of family and friends on May 27 and 28.

Activities will begin at 9 a.m. May 27. May 28 is the church's fourth Sunday.

Prizes will be given away for "all kinds of reasons" including: individual with the most children; oldest present; youngest present; and individual traveling the furthest distance.

Individuals with photographs that may be of interest to the group are encouraged to bring them.

Those who would like to contribute Indian recipes for the production of a cook book are encouraged to do so also. Proceeds from the book will be contributed to the church circuit.

Reunion attenders are encouraged to bring a covered dish and lawn chairs.

Donations to cover the expense of the reunion are appreciated.

A reunion of Euchee Mission alumni will be held at the same time. For more information, call or write Bill Moody at: (918) 367-391; Rt. 3, Box 387, Bristow, OK 74010.

Yardeka Baptist to hold reunion

YARDEKA — Yardeka Baptist Church is holding a reunion for all members, former members, and friends beginning at 9 a.m., May 28.

All individuals attending are encouraged to bring photographs and memorabilia.

For more information, contact Bunny Hill at: (918) 689-5194; or Ray and Ailene Starr at (918) 652-9756.

All members and friends are encouraged to attend.

• A coed volleyball tournament will be held at the church on May 20. The entry fee is \$35. For more information, contact Pat Frank at (918) 652-4252 or Skeet Williams at (918) 652-3937.

Leitka memorial singing scheduled

GLENPOOL — The Leitka family is holding a singing in memory of their parents — Elliott and Cora Leitka — beginning at 2 p.m., June 10.

The singing will be held at Glenpool Creek Indian Community Activity Building. Supper will be served at 5 p.m.

The event will include both Mvskoke hymns and gospel singing.

The family invites all churches, Creek singers, gospel singers, families and individuals to take part.

This is to be the first of an annual event. Coordinators are Wayne Harjo and the Buck family.

For more information, contact Loretta Denny at: (918) 689-7153.

Obituaries

continued from page 9

She was employed with Muscogee Nation and later relocated to Glenpool, accepting employment with the American Foundry Group for the last six years. She was an active member of the Bixby Young Men's Christian Association.

Survivors include: her husband, Ed Hughes, of the home; a son, William Watashe; and a daughter, Lulu Watashe, of the home; her mother of Wetumka; three brothers, Harry Martinex, Dallas, Texas, James and Leroy Martinez, both of Skiatook; two sisters, Betty Postoak and Freda Jewell, both of Wetumka; several other relatives; and many friends. Interment was in the Harjo Cemetery.

FANNIE WATSON

ARBEKA — Funeral services for Fannie Watson were held April 12 at Arbeka Baptist Church with Rev. John Lowe officiating. A wake service was held April 11.

She died April 9. She was born November 20, 1907 in Bryant to Joe and Nancy Tiner Fisher.

She was a homemaker and member of Arbeka Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, John.

Survivors include: sons, Rex Watson, Okmulgee, Albert Pace, Phoenix, Ariz., Bunney Carter Bryant, Virgil Sanders, McAlester; one daughter, Virgie Poe, Houston, Texas; 30 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; and nine great-great grandchildren.

Interment was in Arbeka cemetery.

Gratitude

We would like to thank all individuals that coordinated and attended prayer services for our loved one. The spiritual support and comfort your prayers, hymns, and presence offered him have further endeared all of you to our family.

Whether you prepared food, served, washed dishes, or volunteered other services, your consideration helped to ease our burden.

Mvto to all who visited, called, sent cards, flowers, or made monetary donations.

A very special thank you is offered to *mamoce*

Susie Monday — a selfless woman of immense spiritual and physical support.

The Nazin Billy Family

We would like to express our appreciation to the tribal towns, churches, relatives, and friends that brought food, flowers, and offered their assistance during the passing of our loved one — Michael Eugene Bucktrot. *Mvto.*

Sand Creek Tribal Town

We would like to thank the San Francisco office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the San Francisco district attorneys office, Jack Goss, Linda Cowen, Creek Nation, D.D. Etchison Methodist Church, Hart Funeral Home, Morris Cragar Flowers, Gail Blevins, Rev. Ronnie Smallen, and Rev. David Wilson for their support and thoughtfulness during the loss of our mother, grandmother, and friend. We want to offer our sincere gratitude to the many friends and neighbors for their personal support, donations, flowers, food, and prayers.

The Mary Helen Summerfield Family

Chief

continued from page 1

* To provide for the continuation of the governmental structure of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation so that it will continue to be a viable governmental entity into the 21st Century.

It is the responsibility of each elected official to uphold the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to provide for the citizens therein to the best of their ability. Upon assuming my role as the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I swore an oath to "faithfully execute the Office of the Principal Chief" and "to the best of my ability, uphold the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation." Further, I accepted the responsibility to "prepare the annual budget requests and supplements there to and with the advice and consent of the National Council, administer funds within the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation." Therefore, it is my responsibility to ensure that the fiscal operations of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are conducted in a prudent, responsible, and accountable manner that is responsive to the needs of the people and to ensure that such operations are consistent with the goals and objectives of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

I have accepted the responsibility that has been placed before me and have ardently conducted my activities consistent with the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as I have sworn to do. My administration has not forgotten why we were elected nor have we lost sight of the needs of the people. I will continue to ensure that the government of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is responsive to the needs of the people. Further, I will continue to ensure that the provision of services is conducted in a manner which is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and representative of the needs of the people whom have placed in me, their trust.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

The tribe sent truckloads of medical supplies, food, bottled water, gloves, etc., to help support the Alfred P. Murrah building clean-up effort. Employee Rita Williams hands supplies to Kevin Soap, Muscogee Nation Manufacturing Enterprises inventory receiver, as Richard Harley, maintenance, assists.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Child care professionals from different agencies recently met to attend a multidisciplinary workshop — "Protecting Our Children in the Muscogee Nation" coordinated by Second Chief Shelly Crow. Participating were: front row — Laura Mackey, contract health specialist, Muscogee Nation Division of Health Administration; Judy Rickman, Justice Center; Susan Gaskil, emergency room supervisor, Creek Nation Community Hospital; Ruth Davidson, social worker, Department of Human Services; Shelly Crow, second chief, Muscogee Nation; Carla Cantrell, criminal investigator, Muscogee Nation Lighthouse Administration; back row — Carmen Gore, prevention worker, DHS Child Welfare; Marycarol Page, case work coordinator, Court Appointed Special Advocates; Dr. Raymond Lala, chief dental officer, Sapula Indian Health Service dental clinic; Daly Tearl, substance abuse counselor, Muscogee Nation Behavioral Health Care; Dr. John Gastorf, director, behavioral health care; Timothy Cheek, discharge planner, behavioral health care; D.J. Dunlap, special agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation; and Alice King, child psychologist, behavioral health care.

Letters

continued from page 2

administration to provide more services to our tribal citizens." She had already written a bill that will take 20 percent of the lawsuit settlement — approximately \$1.2 million — for client services. Fife vetoed that bill, but the Council voted to override and the bill is now law and the money is being spent. I think the Council overstepped the line here.

The administration makes the budget and the Council approves it. By taking that 20 percent, we are taking the tribal money and trying to do the function of the administration. We do not have the staff nor do we deal with the daily duties of the administration. Our job is to legislate. It is the administration's job to set the budget and determine where the money needs to be spent with Council approval.

It makes me feel bad for our people, our children, and our grandchildren because we are going to deplete that settlement money. Approximately \$1.2 million of tribal money will be depleted by Robert's bill that the Council agreed to. All Roberts asked for could have been accomplished without ever spending any of the principal of the \$5.7 million settlement.

If we had put the \$5.7 million in a permanent fund and taken only the interest from that money and legislated a bill directing the administration to spend the interest money for client services, we would have money for services for generations to come. Now we are depleting the principal and once that money is gone, it is gone.

The Council did come up with a better bill to accomplish what Roberts was asking for. Her bill was poorly written. Voting for it as is would have been wrong. Two wrongs do not make a right. The author

doesn't seem to understand her own bill. She doesn't seem to know how to write a bill and she doesn't understand what she is writing. Another representative said I voted against the people, but it is my job to look out for the people and not to allow bad bills like this one to pass.

The people of the Muscogee Nation and the absentee voters gave me one of the highest margins of victory over an incumbent because they believed that I would stand up and speak out on their behalf.

That is exactly what I have done.

I believe in building a strong foundation for the Muscogee Nation by legislating good bills that will stand up in any court.

I was working on a bill to use the interest from the \$5.7 million settlement for all kinds of services for the people. My bill would have met all the objectives that Roberts wanted met in NCA 95-02.

Now, I have a finished bill which I cannot introduce because the money is being spent by Roberts's bill. I keep my bill in my briefcase to remind myself that I goofed too. I should have worked faster and harder so my bill would have been finished and introduced first. I am not going to introduce it because over \$825,000 is being spent now and by the end of the year all of the \$1.2 million will be depleted.

If we had passed a bill to use the interest only and not the principal, all of that \$1.2 million would be there for the future. I feel bad because we are depleting the money and not leaving anything for the future.

I will continue to stand up for the people. I will continue to speak out against any bill that is not right. I would never vote against the people. I only vote against bad bills.

Dave Lewis, Okmulgee District representative, Yardeka



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June 1995, 12 Pages

Ten ladies seeking Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation title



Bigpond



Chastain



Dick



Grammar



Harrell



Lowe



Lowry



Morgan



Mosquito



Watashe

OKMULGEE — Ten young, Mvskoke and Yuchi ladies will run for the title of Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation 1995-96 at 7 p.m., June 15.

The contenders are:

♥ **Candidate:** Sheree Nicole Bigpond
Parents and grandparents: Judith Bigpond and Lewis Conway, Coweta; and Kessler and Lucy Bigpond, Bristow

Church and-or tribal town, clan: Mt. Zion Baptist Church; Polecat; and Deer

Age and school: 17; Coweta High School

♥ **Candidate:** Cimeron Dawn Chastain
Parents and grandparents: John and Diane Chastain, Weleetka; and the late Sam Louis Tiger and Margaret Drew Sands

Church and-or tribal town, clan: Weleetka First Baptist; Tuskegee; and Tiger

Age and school: 16; Weleetka High School

♥ **Candidate:** Deanna Jane Dick
Parents and grandparents: Richard and Terry Dick, Tulsa; and Lee and Mary Jane Funburg,

Eufaula

Church and-or tribal town, clan: Bowen Indian Baptist; Eufauloce; and Bird

Age and school: 21; Dartmouth College

♥ **Candidate:** Royce Lynn Grammar
Parents and grandparents: Roy and Linda Kay Grammar, Castle; and John and Louise Burgess, Castle

Church and-or tribal town, clan: Greenleaf

please see PAGEANT ..., page 11



Principal Chief Bill Fife, center, signs a contract for the construction of the community services building. Witnessing are Stephen Wright, Innovative Systems; Donna Edmondson, Larry Edmondson and Associates Inc.; Lloyd Caldwell, Innovative Systems; Geneva Gooden, purchasing; George Almerigi, acting attorney general; and Edmondson.

Chief sets dates for special election

OKMULGEE — Utilizing his Constitutional authority, Principal Chief Bill Fife has set special election dates for Constitutional amendments National Council Act 95-37 and NCA 95-45. The dates are:

- **June 28** — registration for absentee voters closes;
- **July 3** — absentee ballots mailed;
- **July 12** — precinct registration closes; and
- **July 22** — special election day.

please see SPECIAL ELECTION ..., page 11

Second Chief discusses her tenure

by Shelly Crow, Second Chief

The role and mission of second chief is to support the office of the principal chief for the benefit of the citizens of the Muscogee Nation through active involvement in all areas of assigned responsibility.

Before I took office as second chief I committed myself to being an active elected official. I believed our tribe had come to far for the second chief to be an elected official in name only.

With your support, I have spent my term as an advocate for those who needed help. Though I have no signature authority, and have had little if any input with the day-to-day operations of the tribe, I still tried to provide direction and service for many of you.

I began trying to make changes in the way the tribe does its business because I believe many of you voted for that change. In 1992, I was the acting director of the health administration, serving at the request of the principal chief during the transition period. It was in those months, that the Indian Health Service lawsuit against the tribe for mismanagement of federal funds after five years. We settled for far less than the \$200,000 IHS wanted from us.

I also implemented new guidelines for the community health representative program to make it work more fairly for the people who need this service.

Because of this and my years of experience as a health care provider, I was selected to serve on the

President's Health Care Task Force. This was important as this was the only chance for Indian input at the presidential level.

And despite what my enemies said, I served that task force at a great cost to me personally and financially.

As a mother, I am concerned about drug use among our children. In 1994, I led this tribe's participation in Red Ribbon Week to support a drug free environment. If our children are the future, we must make certain they have every chance to be successful and stay drug free.

I have also spent a good deal of my term representing you on various boards and committees.

I served on the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission for two years. During that time, I fought to have the Indian affairs office changed to a cabinet level position in the state government instead of being lumped with the blind and handicapped programs of the state's health department budget.

I have also made our priorities known to other tribes. As a member of the executive committee of the Inter-tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, I have brought issues to the meetings that have not been considered before. I worked to change the image of Inter-tribal to one of a working group of Indian leaders.

This work is significant as we prepare for the future. Tribal government as we know it is about to

change dramatically because of the changes at the federal level.

Programs that have traditionally received funding are now being examined and questioned. Many of these programs have been guaranteed by treaty rights, but the political climate is such that Indians may be asked to bear a greater portion of the burden to balance the federal budget.

It is important for us to be aware of the budgeting and funding process for our programs. The future employment in this country is not going to be labor-intensive manufacturing or agriculture, but in technology and service. Can we say that this tribe is ready for the future? What kind of future is there in bingo and smokeshops? How much longer can we depend on that for money?

Without federal funding, we can expect extreme cutbacks in tribal services and programs. Jobs will also be affected as programs are cutback or eliminated. We are looking at hard times for the Muscogee Nation.

It could easily be the worst time in modern history for chiefs to seek office as we face what some might call a depression. But, with strong, decisive leadership, and a willingness to fight Washington D.C. for what is rightfully ours, we can make it through this crisis.

There is a sense of urgency for decisive leadership with foresight for not only the present, but for the lives of our children and grandchildren. It is time for us to stand up and give an account of ourselves.

As I have been tragically reminded recently, life is short. *The Bible teaches the race is not always to the fastest or the battle to the strongest.* I am more determined now than ever to dedicate myself to the service of others. Thank you for your continued support. I intend to serve you faithfully and complete the job you elected me to do.

Letters to the editor

Representative writes about rights

Editor:

I am writing for the 800-plus employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and all entities. Many employees and their families are not aware of the recently passed tribal law protecting employees and guaranteeing their rights.

With the help of tribal district court judge Patrick Moore and National Council attorney Tim Posey, I introduced legislation to protect one of our most valuable assets: our employees.

Employees are responsible for the day-to-day operations of tribal government including bingo halls, smoke shops, and community operations.

The bill, NCA 95-07, states that all illegal, unethical, dishonest, and improper conduct by any person should be stopped. Any employee reporting any such action shall be protected from retaliation such as discharge, suspension, transfer, demotion, reduction in wages, threats, etc.

Other rights include the right to call improper acts of another employee to the attention of supervisors and the right to report dangerous or unhealthy working conditions and inspection of same.

Any act of reprisal against an employee for providing information to the office of the attorney general or personnel shall be considered illegal. Additionally, any person found by the Muscogee Nation employment security commission to have violated those provisions of this law shall forfeit his or her position and be ineligible for appointment or employment for a period of five years. Any employee may request a copy of this law by notifying their supervi-

sor or personnel office.

If I can be of assistance with more information, feel free to contact me.

A.D. Ellis, Okmulgee District representative, Twin Hills

Student thanks representative

Editor:

On April 23, David Lewis, National Council Representative for the Muscogee Nation, came to speak at Haskell Indian Nations University. Lewis came on behalf of the Muscogee Nation to help us celebrate Native American Heritage Week. His speech centered on tradition and medicine. We greatly appreciate his contribution to the education of our students.

We would also like to extend gratitude for the Muscogee Nation for providing elders to assist in the continuing education of Native American students.

Tammy Sue Lowe, Lawrence, Kan.

Editor's note: Lowe is Haskell Indian Nations University Student Senate Vice President.

Clarification

The graduation feature of Lekapv Bell appearing in the May edition of *The Muscogee Nation News* should have listed her paternal grandparents as the late Nettie and Harry Bell. Also, her future plans are to major in architecture at Oklahoma State University.

Bell



The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

James Wolfe, managing editor

Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff writer

Program briefs

Entrepreneurial workshops

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is considering cosponsoring a series of business workshops with the Oklahoma Native American Business Development Center in Tulsa for interested Indians in the immediate area.

Topics being considered are:

- home-based or microenterprise — will acquaint potential entrepreneurs with opportunities in a home-based or microenterprise operation including product selection and networking with other home-based businesses;
- financing small business — will provide information about the sources of business financing and requirements for participation;
- finding and developing your market — will enable identification of potential customers, sources of marketing assistance, and how to develop and implement marketing strategies; and
- legal and tax aspects of business — will explain the basic forms of business organization as well as provide basic information for record keep-

ing and reporting requirements to assure tax compliance and reduce tax liability.

For further information, contact Andrew Skeeter, Muscogee Nation Economic Development Specialist, at: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Muscogee Nation WIC program

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Women's, Infants, and Children's (WIC) program is now providing services to Eufaula, Okemah, and Okmulgee areas.

The program provides nutrition education, vouchers for nutritious supplemental foods, and health services referrals to participants. It is available to pregnant, postpartum, and breast-feeding women, infants, and children up to age 5.

Infants on the program receive appropriate formula, cereal, and juices. Women and children receive: fortified milk and or cheese; eggs; hot or cold cereals high in iron; fruit and vegetable juices high in vitamin C; and either peanut butter or dry beans and peas.

Breast-feeding women may also receive: tuna;

carrots; peanut butter; and dry beans and peas.

The federal program is available to all eligible persons. Participants now enrolled in other county or tribal WIC programs are welcome to transfer to the tribal program.

Applicants must be screened by WIC or medical personnel who assess general health, history, weight, and blood tests. Tribal clinics provide medical support for Indian participants. Non-Indians receive medical support from county health departments or private physicians.

Muscogee Nation WIC screenings are held at:

- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 W. Forrest Ave., 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesdays;
- Okemah Indian Community Center, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesdays;
- Sapulpa Indian Community Center, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursdays; and
- Okmulgee Indian Health Center, 1313 E. 20th St., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information, call (918) 758-2722, or toll free 1 (800) 648-2302.

National Council approves Giles for attorney general at May session

OKMULGEE — Results from the May 22 Muscogee (Creek) National Council Regular Session.

Number, Title, Vote

• National Council Resolution 95-15 — a resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council confirming Marcella Giles as attorney general of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Pass, 29-0-3.

Voting by district

(Speaker Thomas Yahola [Tukvpvtce District] conducted the meeting and votes only on veto considerations and to break ties.):

Creek District — Yes: Duke Harjo; Leah Jack; Phyllis Warrington; and Earl Wheeler

McIntosh District — Yes: Wilbur Gouge; Sandy McIntosh; Thomas McIntosh; Tommy Pickering; and Yahola Townsend;

Muskogee District — Yes: Helen Chupco and Frances Pease; Absent: Charlie Coker;

Okfuskee District — Yes: Mae Jackson and Wynema Roberts; Absent: Clyde Johnson and Bruce Smith

Okmulgee District — Yes: A.D. Ellis; Anderson Hale; Jim Harjo; Charlie Litsey; Peggy Lyda; and David Nichols; Absent: Dave Lewis

Tukvpvtce District — Yes: Darrell Coachman; Tim Fife; and Dwayne Lowe;

Tulsa District — Yes: Perry Beaver; Larry Bible; Irene Cleghorn; Jesse Kelley; Abstain: Steve Bruner and Earl King;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District — Yes: Richard Berryhill; Abstain: Barbara Gillespie.

• NCR 95-16 — a resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council confirming the nomination of Robert Hufft to serve on the gaming

operations authority board. Pass, 31-0-0 (unanimous).

• National Council Act 95-48 — a bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating \$8,939.79 for Sapulpa Indian Community. Pass, 29-1-1.

Voting by district

Creek — Yes: Harjo; Jack; Warrington; and Wheeler;

McIntosh — Yes: Gouge; S. McIntosh; T. McIntosh; Pickering; and Townsend;

Muskogee — Yes: Chupco and Pease;

Okfuskee — No: Roberts; Abstain: Jackson;

Okmulgee — Yes: Ellis; Hale; Harjo; Litsey;

Lyda; and Nichols;

Tukvpvtce — Yes: Coachman; Fife; and Lowe;

Tulsa — Yes: Beaver; Bible; Bruner;

Cleghorn; Kelley; King; and Moore;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes — Yes: Berryhill and Gillespie.

• NCA 95-56 — a bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending NCA 95-20 (ICUSA - Client Services) at Section 103(e), emergency energy assistance to provide for administrative cost. Returned to committee, 24-7-0.

Voting by district

Creek — Yes: Harjo; Jack; and Warrington; No: Wheeler;

McIntosh — Yes: Gouge; S. McIntosh; T. McIntosh; and Townsend; No: Pickering;

Muskogee — Yes: Chupco and Pease;

Okfuskee — Yes: Jackson;

Okmulgee — Yes: Ellis; Hale; Litsey; and Lyda; No: Harjo and Nichols;

Tukvpvtce — Yes: Coachman and Fife; No:

Lowe;

Tulsa — Yes: Beaver; Bruner; Cleghorn; Kelley; and Moore; No: Bible and King;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes — Yes: Berryhill and Gillespie.

• Tribal Resolution 95-05 — a resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) tribe making certain assurances in connection with an application for the [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development] community development block grant for Indian tribes and Alaskan native villages program; pass, 31-0-0 (unanimous).

• NCA 95-55 — a bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating \$2,500 for travel and administration [costs] of the environmental services administration emergency home repair program. Pass, 29-2-0.

Voting by district

Creek — Yes: Harjo; Jack; Warrington; and Wheeler;

McIntosh — Yes: Gouge; T. McIntosh; Pickering; and Townsend; No: S. McIntosh;

Okfuskee — Yes: Jackson and Roberts;

Okmulgee — Yes: Ellis; Hale; Harjo; Lyda; and Nichols; No: Litsey;

Tukvpvtce — Yes: Coachman; Fife; and Lowe;

Tulsa — Yes: Beaver; Bible; Bruner; Cleghorn; Kelley; King; and Moore;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes — Yes: Berryhill and Gillespie.

• NCA 95-60 — a bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating \$500 for administrative cost of the school clothing program for 1995-96 [academic year]. Pass, 31-0-0 (unanimous).

Births and birthdays

Albert Berryhill Jr.

OKLAHOMA CITY — Albert Berryhill Jr. celebrated his third birthday on March 25 with a party at Chuck E. Cheese's.

He is the son of Albert and LaVera Berryhill of Oklahoma City.

His grandparents are Myrtle and Daniel Billy, Oklahoma City, and the late Albert and Alice Berryhill.



Berryhill

Traie D. Phillips

BRISTOW — Traie D. Phillips will observe his first birthday June 23. He is the son of Jerrold and Shari Phillips. Grandparents are Johnson and Betty Proctor of Bristow, and Newman Phillips of Okmulgee.



Phillips

Joseph Nick Tiger

KELLYVILLE — Joseph Nick Tiger celebrated his second birthday with a party hosted by his mother, Sherry Tiger. Those attending were: great-grandmother, Lorene Brown; grandmother, Judy Bruner; great-uncles, Bobby and Louis Brown; uncle, Michael Tiger; and cousins, Martha Reyes and her son, Erick, and Jane Brown.



Tiger

People

LINCOLN, Neb. — Muscogee citizen Vincent Mendoza of McAlester has won the University of Nebraska Press Prose Award for his book, "Son of Two Bloods."

The book is Mendoza's memoir that traces his life from his 1950s childhood through his tour of duty with the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam. It is his first book.

Mendoza is the son of Concho and Martha Mendoza and the grandson of the late Rev. Newman and Annie McIntosh of Okmulgee. The book is expected to be released later this year.

Community news

Eufaula Indian Community

EUFAULA — The Eufaula elderly nutrition center held its Mother's Day dinner May 12. Flowers were donated by Margaret Udey and Edna Belcher. Rev. Washie Lewis offered the blessing. Harriette Tiger won the award for most children and Clara McIntosh was recognized as oldest mother. The community wishes to thank: nutrition program cook, Millie Colbert; her staff, James Charles; Jerry Francis; Ginger Johnson; McIntosh District representative Tom Pickering; his wife, Judith; and Gary Walker.

• The community is also sponsoring a fun and fitness walk June 10. For more information, contact the EIC office at (918) 689-5066 or the public health nurses at (918) 689-2547.

Hanna Indian Community

HANNA — A dinner for 1994-95 Miss Mvskoke Creek Nation Corina Lowe was held April 29 at the community center. Lowe is a student at Hanna High School. The community presented her with a plaque. It will be displayed in the community center.

Checotah Indian Community

CHECOTAH — The Checotah Indian Community opened its gift shop May 22.

• The community heard reports from Muscogee Nation Second Chief Shelly Crow and Muscogee (Creek) National Council representatives Wilbur Gouge, Tommy Pickering, and Yahola Townsend regarding tribal programs.

• Tony York and Tamara Fish are the recipients of the the \$1,000 community scholarship. Both are honors graduates from Checotah High

Reunions

Wilson-Tecumseh-Bruner

TWIN HILLS — The Wilson-Tecumseh-Bruner family reunion will begin at 10 a.m., July 4 at Concharty United Methodist Church. A memorial service for Solomon Wilson will be observed as well as a gospel singing and other activities. Those attending may bring a covered dish.

Bruner

LAMAR — The Bruner family reunion will begin at 10 a.m., July 1 at Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church. All relatives and friends are welcome. Please bring a covered dish.

Fixico

HOLDENVILLE — The Fixico family reunion will begin at 11 a.m., June 24 at the Holdenville Indian Community Center, 416 E. Poplar. Relatives and friends are welcome and asked to bring a covered dish. For more information, contact Delores Roulston at (405) 598-5064.

School. York plans to attend Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, and Fish plans to attend Connors State College, Warner.

• The community smokeshop has relocated to 998 Maple St., next to the community center and gift shop. The hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily except Sunday.

• A lawn care program has been approved during the last community meeting. Senior citizens wanting assistance for lawn maintenance are asked to contact Martha Armstrong at (918) 473-5290.

• June community calendar (all activities at the community center, 998 Maple St.):

June 12 — community meeting, 7 p.m.;

June 20 — elders' luncheon, 11 a.m.; and

June 22 — commodities.

• Basket making classes, led by Wyvona Evans, will begin in June.

Kellyville Indian Community

KELLYVILLE — The Lola Hardridge family held their third annual reunion April 15. There were 103 attending including her daughters: Shirley Brown; Beatrice Buckley; Joyce Johnson; Barbara Manley, all of Kellyville; Betty Jones and Helen Jones, both of Fort Worth, Texas. Also attending were 20 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren, five great-great-grandchildren, and other relatives. A stompdance was held also in her honor.

• The community held a garage sale to aid Raymond Lee Washburn, son of Dimmie Washburn. The younger Washburn was a victim of the April 19 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building in Oklahoma City. Washburn, who is disabled, operated a concession stand in the building that was destroyed by the blast.

Harjo competes in Special Olympics

STILLWATER — Muscogee citizen Elizabeth Ann Harjo competed in the Special Olympics May 11. She placed in the 25 meter and 100 meter walk for the 40 and over age group.

Harjo suffered a head injury when she was 9 months old that caused a brain hemorrhage that resulted in cerebral palsy. She attended Carver Center and recieved her diploma in 1971. Harjo attends Arbeka United Methodist Church and is recognized for her hymn singing. She resides with her parents, Marshall and Ruby Harjo of Wewoka. Correspondence may be addressed to Harjo at P.O. Box 1259, Wewoka, OK 74884.



Harjo

Muscogee students

B.J. Hill

OKMULGEE — Muscogee citizen B.J. Hill has been named to the Eastside Elementary School Principal's Honor Roll for the 1994-95 school year.

The fifth-grade-student-to-be was also chosen student of the month of April. Hill has been awarded for reading, math, and student achievement. He is the son of Billy and Maria Hill of Okmulgee.



Hill

Sha Ree Hill

BRISTOW — Muscogee citizen Sha Ree Hill has been recognized for her pitching this past season for Depew Junior High School. The freshman-to-be is the daughter of David and Monica Hill of Depew. She is the granddaughter of Joann Powell and the great-granddaughter of the late Sarah Coker Hicks. Her paternal grandfather is John Watson.



Hill

Crystal Lorene Marie Roy

TULSA — Muscogee citizen Crystal Roy has been selected to the United States Achievement Academy National Honor Society. She has been an honor student at Clinton Middle School for two years and is also an academic all-American.

Roy is the daughter of Johnny and Donna Roy of Tulsa. She is the granddaughter of Frank and the late Bertha Johnson, and the great-granddaughter of Lucinda Walkingstick of Oakhurst.



Roy

Citizens awarded at OU

NORMAN — Several Muscogee citizens were recognized during the American Indian Awards Program sponsored by the University of Oklahoma Office of Student Support Services, American Indian Student Services.

Those awarded were:



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Over 200 Eufaula, Okmulgee, Sapulpa, and Yeager Head Start children participated in the Creek Nation Head Start Little Olympics in May. Events included an obstacle course, 40-yard dash, and relay events.

- Barbara Joy Endres — outstanding sophomore. Endres is the daughter of Mike and Barbara Endres of Preston. She was also Miss Indian OU for 1994;

- Dr. Sandra Choney — outstanding faculty member. Choney is the daughter of Taylor and Dottie Fife of Dustin. Choney is a licensed psychologist and assistant professor of counseling psychology. She is a member of the OU American Indian Task Force and is president of the OU

American Indian Alumni Society. Choney also serves on the Muscogee Nation Health Board;

- Mary Harjo — community service and outstanding senior woman. Harjo of Holdenville, was recognized for her contributions to the American Indian community and OU. She is the daughter of Amos Barney and Lizzie Harjo of Holdenville. She is the granddaughter of Lula and Davis Sasakwa.

Education briefs

Tribal employee named to committee

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee Nation Adult Education Program supervisor Cheryl Bear has been appointed to the Native American-Alaska Native Adult Education Advisory Group. The purpose of the group is to improve communication between the tribes and the Oklahoma State Department of Education. Bear, a tribal citizen, resides in Checotah.

Program coordinator honored

JONES — Muscogee citizen Tracy Palmer was given special recognition for her dedication to American Indian students at Jones Public Schools. Palmer is the Johnson O'Malley coordinator for the schools. She received her award at the state JOM conference held in Tulsa recently. Many of her students speak English as a second language. She is the niece of Muscogee (Creek) National Council Representative Helen Chupco of Muskogee.

Anna Bland scholarship winners

GRAHAM — Muscogee citizens Jess Harjochee (left) and Kendra Humble are the 1995 recipients of the Anna Bland Memorial Scholarship.

The awards were presented by Muscogee Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife (center) at the Okfuskee County Native American Banquet.

Harjochee is the son of Barney and Deborah Harjochee of Mason. Humble is the daughter of Jim and Ethel Humble of Okemah.

Okfuskee District representative Bruce Smith was the master of ceremonies.



Muscogee graduates

Tammy Bigpond

LIBERTY MOUNDS — Muscogee citizen Tammy Bigpond has graduated from Liberty Mounds High School. Bigpond was included on the principal's honor roll. She was active in basketball and received several honors including Tulsa World All-Metro team for two years and the Daily Oklahoman Super Six High School Girls Basketball Team. She was listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students and was named the outstanding all-around athlete.

Bigpond plans to attend Northeastern Oklahoma Junior College, Miami. She is the daughter of Negiel and Jan Bigpond of Liberty Mounds.



Bigpond

Tonya Bigpond

LIBERTY MOUNDS — Muscogee citizen Tonya Bigpond has graduated from Liberty Mounds High School. She was included on the principal's honor roll and had 13 years of perfect attendance.

She was active in basketball and softball and received honors for most valuable player in both. She was picked to the Frisco Conference All Star Team and Tulsa World All-Metro team. She was listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students.

Bigpond plans to attend Northeastern Oklahoma Junior College, Miami. She is the daughter of Negiel and Jan Bigpond.



Bigpond

William M. Dowdy

GLENPOOL — Muscogee citizen William Dowdy Jr. has graduated from Glenpool High School where he lettered in baseball and basketball. He is a member of New Town United Methodist Church and is vice-chair of the Northeast District United Methodist Youth and a representative for the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference.

He plans to attend Oklahoma City University. Dowdy is the son of Bill and Bernadine Dowdy and the grandson of Dorothy Bible Stevens and the late Carole Jones Jacobs.



Dowdy

Michelle Heather Hillman Easley

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Muscogee citizen Michelle Easley has graduated from the University of Arkansas with a bachelor's degree in poultry science. She made the dean's list and was active in the Alpha Phi Omega and Poultry Science Clubs. She is married to John Easley. Her parents are John Hillman and Riga Moore. Her grandparents are John and Geneva Hillman.

Carrie Guthrie

OKTAHA — Muscogee citizen Carrie Guthrie has graduated from Oktaha High School. She was active in yearbook and Teens for Christ. Guthrie was a four-year letter winner in basketball and won numerous related awards. She plans to attend Haskell Indian Nations University and major in physical education. She is the daughter of Gary and Debra Guthrie.



Guthrie

Sandra Lyn Hill

EUREKA, Nev. — Muscogee citizen Sandra Hill has graduated from Eureka High School where she was included on the honor roll. She plans to attend Ohio State University. She is the daughter of Sammy Dean Hill of Henryetta and the granddaughter of Joann and Arthur Powell.



Hill

Carmen McGirt

CROMWELL — Muscogee citizen Carmen McGirt has graduated from Butner High School where she led the girls basketball team in scoring. She was also named most valuable player for the East Central Conference for two years. She will attend Crowder College, Neosho, Mo. McGirt is the daughter of Thomas and Wisey Givens and the granddaughter of the late Lydia Smith and Raymond McGirt.



McGirt

Shahn-Dea Lynn Mosquito

MOUNDS — Muscogee citizen Shahn-Dea Mosquito has graduated from Mounds High School where she maintained a 3.8 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale). She was named Miss Mounds High, football

queen, and received the Ederett Hyder Award for being the outstanding female student. Mosquito was also a member of the varsity cheerleading squad, color guard, academic bowl, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Beta Club, and the National Honor Society. She also made all conference in basketball and was named Mounds High School offensive softball player of the year. She plans to attend Oklahoma State University and major in biology and health. Mosquito is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Craig Mosquito.



Mosquito

Shari Proctor Phillips

DEPEW — Muscogee citizen Shari L. Proctor Phillips has graduated from Depew High School. She is the daughter of Johnson and Betty Proctor of Bristow.



Phillips

Vera Tyner

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Muscogee citizen Vera Tyner has graduated from Haskell Indian Nations University with an associate of science degree. She was a recipient of the American Legion Superior Achievement award and the Haskell Scholastic Excellence award. She plans to attend the University of Oklahoma. Tyner is the daughter of Claude and Belinda Tyner of Tulsa.

Esther Jo Yargee

CROMWELL — Esther Yargee has graduated from Butner High School where she was included on the principal's honor roll. She was the leading rebounder for the Butner High School girls basketball team and was a three-year letter winner in both basketball and softball. Yargee also participated in yearbook and newspaper. She is also active in Youth 2000, UNITY, Seminole Nation Inter-tribal Youth Council, National Indian Education Association student representative, and RISE. Yargee is active with Sand Creek and Alabama tribal towns. She plans to attend Seminole Junior College, Seminole. Yargee is the daughter of Tarpie and Amy Yargee and the granddaughter of Hazel Tiger and the late Joe Jones, and Winey and the late Phillip Yargee of Holdenville.



Yargee

Welcome to the 1995 Creek Nation Festival & Rodeo!



Fife

Welcome Creek citizens, other tribal members, and the many visitors from around the country to the 21st Annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo.

This is a festive occasion which makes us proud to be a part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. It is an annual tradition which affirms our heritage. It gives our people the opportunity to fellowship with relatives and friends and to also establish new acquaintances.

Our goals have always been centered around the needs of our family and culture. We face many new challenges every day that threaten our unity and our existence as a nation. However, we should not and will not cast aside those unique qualities which make us Creek. We should use our culture to strengthen our government. We have the visions, the dreams, and the desire to maintain a strong tribal government.

During the past three years, Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seen growth and progress. I am optimistic about the future and the potential for our nation. Things look better for us than ever before and we are moving forward. We have had many important victories for becoming stronger and more effective as a government.

Again, I want to welcome everyone and hope you enjoy the many planned activities during this year's Festival.

Bill S. Fife, principal chief



file photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Principal Chief Bill Fife welcomes Emma Rose Jacobs, Yardeka, to the Festival.



21st Annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo schedule

All events in Okmulgee unless indicated.

June 15

• 7 p.m. — Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Pageant, tribal complex, independent agencies (mound) auditorium, U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56

June 16

• 8 a.m. — Youth Olympics, Harmon Stadium, 623 W. Twelfth St.

• 8 a.m. — Health education fair, Harmon Stadium, 623 W. Twelfth St.

• Noon — Golf tournament, Arrowhead State Park, Canadian

• 7 p.m. — Men's and women's fast pitch softball tournaments, Omniplex, U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56

• 7 p.m. — Gospel singing, tribal complex, independent agencies (mound) auditorium, U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56

• 8 p.m. — Bowling (practice sessions), Beeline Bowl, 1803 S. Wood Drive

• 8:30 p.m. — Rodeo, Omniplex Arena, U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56

June 17

• 8 a.m. — 5-K run, tribal complex, independent agencies building, U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56

• 8 a.m. — Health information, first aid station, Omniplex, U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56

• 8 a.m. — Tennis tourney, municipal tennis courts, 121 N. Okmulgee Ave.

• 9 a.m. — Volleyball tourney, Omniplex, U.S. Hwy. 75 and Loop 56

• 9 a.m. — Softball tourneys, Omniplex, U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56

• 9 a.m. — Golf tournament, Arrowhead State Park, Canadian

• 9 a.m. — Three-on-three basketball tournament, tribal complex, U.S. Hwy. 75 and Loop 56

• 9:45 a.m. — Senior citizens activities, tribal complex human development building, U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56

• Noon — Bowling tournament, Beeline Bowl, 1803 S. Wood Dr.

• 1 p.m. — Parade lineup, Fourth and Okmulgee streets

• 2 p.m. — Parade, Sixth and Grand streets

• 7 p.m. — Gospel singing, tribal complex independent agencies building (mound) auditorium U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56

• 8:30 p.m. — Rodeo, Omniplex arena, U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56

June 18

• 8 a.m. — Golf tournament (shotgun start), Arrowhead State Park, Canadian

• 8 a.m. — Arts and crafts booths, Omniplex, U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56

• 8 a.m. — Tennis tournament, municipal tennis courts, 121 N. Okmulgee Ave.

• 9 a.m. — Softball tourneys, Omniplex, U.S. Hwy. 75 and loop 56



Past Muscogee Nation princesses.

The MNN file photo

1994-95 Miss Mvskoke (Creek)
Nation, Corina Lowe.

The MNN file photo by Jim Wolfe

Tug of war teams compete at the youth olympics.

The MNN file photo
by Jim Wolfe

Second Chief extends Festival welcome

As second chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I want to welcome all citizens and visitors to the 1995 Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo.

During the past five years, I have served on the Festival either as a health care provider, committee member, or chairperson. This will be first year that I participate in the Festival as a member of the tribe. My heart is with all of those people who have labored over the past 21 years to ensure that our people have a happy and safe Festival.

We have had many disasters, illnesses, and deaths within our Nation this past year. Out of this our people have become stronger, more compassionate, and caring. Within us a distinct courage has come forth to help us look towards building a brighter future for our families and communities.

For the children participating in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Olympics, I wish them all a fun and safe time, and may they all demonstrate good sportsmanship in their endeavors to win their events. As gifts from the Creator and the future of our Nation, we hold these children dear to our hearts. Honor them, protect them, respect them, teach them positive values, be patient and kind, and most of all, listen to what they have to say.

To the Miss Mvskoke Nation Pageant contestants, I wish them well. You are all winners. We're proud of all of our young women. During the past year, Miss Corina Lowe, the 1994-95 Miss Mvskoke Nation, has done a wonderful job in proudly representing our tribe.

For all the other events — rodeo, softball, etc., — may we all set good role models. Good luck to all contestants. Those that are coming back to sing our Muscogee hymns, bringing our Muscogee tradition with you, we salute you. May the Creator look down on us and our ancestors to bless this Festival and our Nation, to take us into the year 2000, never forgetting our families and heritage.

Let's all keep in touch in the years to come. We lean on each other during the sad times. The Festival is a happy celebration that brings us all together to reminisce of good memories and to make new ones. I hope everyone has a memorable and safe time during this year's Festival.

With kindest regards and continuing gratitude for your blessings and support during my tenure as second chief, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Shelly Crow, second chief

Muscogee Nation obituaries

EUGENE B. HAYNES

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Eugene B. Haynes were May 23 at Hickory Ground Baptist Church #1 with Rev. Mitchell Taylor officiating.

He was born April 11, 1925 to John and Ollie Morris Haynes at Salem. He died May 20 at Henryetta.

Haynes married Yannah Fields in 1978. He was a retired construction worker and a member of Hickory Ground Baptist Church #1.

Haynes was preceded in death by: his parents; and two brothers.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; one sister, Rosetta Morgan of Hichita; two brothers, Romen Haynes of Glenpool, and Bud Haynes of New Lenox, Ill.; several nieces; and nephews.

BRIDGETT ANN ROBERTS

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Bridgett Ann Roberts were held May 13 at the Robert Simons Funeral Home with Rev. Robert Washington officiating.

Roberts was born Aug. 8, 1961 to Tom Beaver and Earnestine Henneha at Claremore. She died May 10 at Tulsa Regional Medical Center.

She was married to Amos Roberts in 1982 in Okemah. She was a member of Nuyaka Baptist Church.

Survivors include: her husband of the home; children, Amos Jr., Sonya, and Sonja Roberts, all of the home; sisters, Marla Compton, Rebecca Carey, and Michelle Holbutta, all of Muskogee, and Kunawv Yahola of Okemah; brothers, Tommy Beaver, Freddie Beaver, Thomas Beaver, and Tom Beaver, all of Wewoka; half-sisters, Regina Beaver and Mary Beaver of Wewoka; her father of Wewoka; her mother of Okemah; and grandmother, Christina Henneha of Okemah.

Pallbearers were: John Keys; Lynn Walker; Roger Wolf; Ralph Henneha; Frank Beaver; Bobby Harjo; Charles Compton; and Charles Carey.

Interment was in the Nuyaka Cemetery.

CURTIS SIMMERS

OKMULGEE — Graveside services for Curtis Simmers of Bristow were held at the Miller Cemetery with Revs. Mike Harjo and Harry Long officiating.

Simmers was born Aug. 19, 1932 to Samuel and Sarah Miller Simmers in Okmulgee. He died May 14 at his home.

He was a retired electrician and a member of Newtown United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; two sisters, Bernice Hicks and Pauline Grayson; and two brothers, Abraham Simmers and David Powell.

Survivors include: his wife, Mary, of Bristow; four sons, Edward Simmers of Sapulpa, Mike Simmers of Oaks, and Charlie Simmers and Toby Simmers, both of Okmulgee; four daughters, Jackie Simmers of Sapulpa, Anna Simmers of Tulsa, Valerie Simmers of Okmulgee, and Carol Thompson of Bristow; three sisters, Esther Van Woudenberg of Glenpool, Rebecca Autabo and Priscilla Kahbeah, both of Okmulgee; 24 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

MARILYN JUNE TULSA

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Marilyn June Tulsa were held at Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church with Revs. Julienne Judd and Roy Bigpond officiating.

Tulsa was born Jan. 18, 1944 to July and Mae Tulsa in Tulsa. She died April 23 at St. Francis Hospital.

Tulsa was a member of Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church and American Indian Society of Washington D.C. She retired from Indian Health Service Division of Program Statistics after 30 years. Tulsa had been awarded for meritorious service.

She was a 1962 graduate of Nathan Hale High School, Tulsa and a graduate of Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kan. She also attended Northern Community College.

Tulsa was preceded in death by her son, Derick Timentwa.

Children's ministry will also be provided. For more information, call (918) 291-3209.

Gospel singing at Birdcreek

SASAKWA — Birdcreek Baptist Church is hosting a gospel singing beginning at 7 p.m., June 24. Al Brown is the master of ceremonies. Concessions will be provided and listeners are asked to bring their lawn chairs. The church is located three miles west of Sasakwa on state highway 56 and one-half mile south.

Gospel Crusade

MUSKOGEE — An American Indian Gospel Crusade will be held June 23 and 24 at Spencer United Methodist Church, 541 N. 7th Street. Praise service begins at 7 p.m. with worship service following at 7:30 with Rev. Kyle Taylor, June 23. A morning service, led by Jim Harjo, begins at 10:30, June 24. A ladies seminar led by Marcia Taylor will begin at 1:30 p.m., with a praise and worship service later at 7. A

Survivors include: a daughter, Kimberly Tulsa of Tulsa; a grandson, David Aaron Tulsa; her parents; three brothers, Jonathan Tulsa and Garry Berryhill, both of Mounds, and Anthony Tulsa of Tulsa; four sisters, Gloria Ware of Coweta, Genelle Meyer and Juanita Thompson, both of Mounds, and Kathy Tulsa of Tulsa; a special friend, Don Peniska of Arlington, Va.; other relatives; and friends.

MITCHELL JOHN WHITLOW

WELEETKA — Funeral services for Mitchell John Whitlow were held May 20 at the family residence with Rev. Richard Lee officiating.

Whitlow was born Aug. 24, 1928 to John and Polly Barnett Whitlow in Weleetka. He died May 16 at Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa.

He married Lillie Scott in 1951. Whitlow was a self-employed plumber and an outdoor enthusiast who carved wood. He was associated with Alabama Quarsarty Ceremonial Ground.

He was preceded in death by: four brothers, Lewis Whitlow; Benjamin Fixico; Jimmy Fixico; and Samuel Fixico; and two sisters, Katy Whitlow Nail and Edna Whitlow.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; three sons and two daughters-in-law, Michael and Carol Whitlow, and Wendell Wayne and Dorinda Whitlow, all of Henryetta, and Mitchell John Jr. of Weleetka; two daughters and sons-in-law, Victoria and Luther Johnson of Okemah, and Joyce Ann and Rev. Richard Lee of Cache; a brother, Andre Fixico of Houston, Texas; a sister, Edna Mae Fixico of Okmulgee; 13 grandchildren; one great-grandson; nieces; nephews; other relatives; and many friends.

Interment was in the Scott Family Cemetery.

Gratitude

We would like to express our thanks to all of those that supported us during our time of mourning. Whether it was a word of encouragement, an act of kindness, or a quiet prayer, we are grateful.

The Mitchell Whitlow family

Religion briefs

Leitka memorial singing scheduled

GLENPOOL — The Leitka family is holding a singing in memory of their parents — Elliott and Cora Leitka — beginning at 2 p.m., June 10.

The singing will be held at Glenpool Creek Indian Community Activity Building. Supper will be served at 5 p.m.

The event will include both Mvskoke hymns and gospel singing.

The family invites all churches, Creek singers, gospel singers, families and individuals to take part.

This is to be the first of an annual event. Coordinators are Wayne Harjo and the Buck family.

For more information, contact: Loretta Denny at (918) 322-3385, or Geneva Colbert at (918) 689-7153.

Pastor to be recognized

TULSA — The children of Rev. William Alexander will host a picnic beginning at noon, June 10 at Chan-

children's ministry will also be provided. For more information, call (918) 291-3209.

Deep Fork Hillabee gospel singing

ONAPA — Deep Fork Hillabee Baptist Church is hosting a gospel singing beginning at 7:30 p.m., Aug. 12. Because of construction, the Onapa Road exit is closed. To get to the church from Checotah, take old highway 69 south to Onapa. From Eufaula, take old highway 69 north to Onapa, then follow signs to the church.

Citizen recognized for service

FORT WORTH, Tex. — Muscogee citizen Betty Lou Hardridge Jones has been named board member of the year for the South Fort Worth Section of the North Texas District Council of the Assemblies of God.

She serves on the board of her home church, Heritage Assembly of God, formerly All Tribes Indian

please see RELIGION..., page 11

Tribal food distribution program unaffected by recent budget cuts

OKMULGEE — Reduction in funding has caused some state-run U.S. Department of Agriculture food distribution programs to discontinue. The Muscogee Nation Food Distribution program is not affected though the program could be in future budget jeopardy.

"I received a letter from the deputy secretary of agriculture May 24," said Charley LaSarge, program manager. "Our program and the nutrition program for the elderly will not be affected at this time. Most of the programs that have been affected by the new changes are administered by the state."

LaSarge said those changes would have prevented the USDA to purchase commodities for federal programs and that administrative costs would be depleted.

"We may experience some cuts within the next fiscal year," LaSarge said. "At this time we are submitting a straight line budget through the federal agency in Dallas. Our program will continue serving Indian families within our boundaries."

Health administration service directory

- Administration — (918) 756-4333
- Children's clinic — (918) 758-2707
- Community health representative — (918) 756-1941 or 1 (800) 398-5379
- Creek Nation Community Hospital — (918) 623-1424
- Elderly nutrition program — (918) 758-2733 or 1 (800) 353-3439
- Eufaula health clinic — (918) 689-2547
- Okemah health clinic — (918) 623-0555
- Okmulgee health clinic — (918) 758-2717
- Okmulgee dental clinic — (918) 758-2700
- Sapulpa health clinic — (918) 224-9310
- Women infants and children — (918) 758-2724

The MNN wins award

OAKLAND, Calif. — *The Muscogee Nation News* has received the National Bojack Humanitarian Award for excellence from Eli Bojack Blackfeather and managing editor Jim Wolfe was named editor of the year.

Blackfeather is a retired American Indian stuntman that has appeared in more than 260 movies. The award was begun in honor of another Indian actor whose name is undisclosed by the organization.

"These are all humanitarian awards because of the work that these people have done either in school or in their professions," Blackfeather said.

Nominations are received from nationwide committees divided by regions. *The Muscogee Nation News* is representing the central division. The awards have been presented annually since 1962.

"It is always pleasing to be recognized for your service," Wolfe said. "Considering it's just Stephanie Berryhill and myself publishing *The Muscogee Nation News*, this award is especially gratifying."

The MNN is published monthly by the Muscogee Nation and distributed to 8,400 each month. Berryhill, who has also been awarded by the Native American Press Association, has been with *The MNN* since 1990. Wolfe has been on staff since 1988 and managing editor since 1993.

Program awarded

The Muscogee Nation Johnson-O'Malley Indian Education Program received the recognition of excellence award at the annual state JOM conference. This was the only award to be presented to a tribe contracting the program.

Pictured from left: Valeria Littlecreek, human development director; Grace Bunner, JOM; Principal Chief Bill Fife; Ken Taryole, program manager; Sandra Peters and Jim Chalakee, JOM.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Ollie Moody and Imogene Harjo embrace during the farewell handshake at the closing of the Northeast District Seniors Methodist Annual Camp while Liza Berryhill, far left, and LouAnna Barnett wait their turn. The camp was hosted by Concharty United Methodist Church in May.

In brief

Language institute offers classes

OKLAHOMA CITY — Classes in beginning and intermediate Mvskoke and Seminole are being held Thursdays at 2604 N. May. The next session of classes will begin Sept. 9.

Nineteen students were recognized for participation and completion of the first Mvskoke language class taught by tribal citizen George Bunny and Ted Isham.

For more information, call (405) 947-1853 or (405) 947-7752.

VFW officers elected

OKMULGEE — Several Muscogee citizens have been installed as officers of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1189.

Robert Bill Jones is post commander and Willie Ellis is the vice-commander, both of Okmulgee.

Officers for the VFW Women's Auxillary include: Wilma Chalakee White, junior vice president; Dorothy Meyer, chaplin; and Lillian Crow, flag bearer. Sue Ellis, wife of Okmulgee District representative A.D. Ellis, is senior vice-president.

Sequoyah to build memorial

TAHLEQUAH — A committee formed to coordinate a war memorial project for Sequoyah Boarding School has been formed. The committee is seeking the names of all alumni that have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Names should be submitted to: George Cameron, Rt. 1 Box 719, Welling, OK 74471 or call (918) 696-7045.

Pageant

continued from page 1

Baptist; New Tulsa; and Beaver

Age, employer: 21; Seminole Nation

♥ Candidate: Jara E. Harrell

Parents and grandparents: Delores Seber, Stroud Church and-or tribal town, clan: Sand Creek and Nuyaka; and Turtle

Age and school: 16; Faith Central, Sapula

♥ Candidate: Taren Michelle Lowe

Parents and grandparents: Tochee Lowe Narcomey, Holdenville; and Angel Lowe, Holdenville

Church and-or tribal town, clan: Holdenville First Indian Baptist; Wind

Age and school: 16; Holdenville High School

♥ Candidate: Tracie Anne Lowry

Parents and grandparents: Richard and Terry Lowry, Tulsa; and Ken and Leona Alsup, Jenks

Church and-or tribal town, clan: Nuyaka; and Wind

Age and school: 21, American University, Washington, D.C.

♥ Candidate: Kogee Yvonne Morgan

Parents and grandparents: Ernest and Joyce Voice, Claremore; and Nathan and Leanna Noon, Wetumka

Church and-or tribal town, clan: Thlopthlocco and Tallahassee; and Bird

Age and school: 17; Claremore High School

♥ Candidate: Shan-dea Lynn Mosquito

Parents and grandparents: Craig and Debbie Mosquito, Mounds; Tom and Mary Shirley, Okmulgee; and Joe and the late Lena Mosquito, Mounds

Church and-or tribal town, clan: North Canadian; Bird

Age and school: 18; Oklahoma State University

♥ Candidate: Trina Dawn Watashe

Parents and grandparents: Marilyn Watashe, Sapulpa; and Bill and Leaster McIntosh, Sapulpa

Church and-or tribal town, clan: Polecat; and Wind

Age and school: 15; Eufaula Boarding School

The pageant will be held at the tribal capitol complex, Independent Agencies (mound) Auditorium, located just north of Okmulgee at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Several Muscogee Nation officials volunteered their services to the disaster relief efforts following the April 19 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building in Oklahoma City. The American Red Cross honored these volunteers with a ceremony where they were each presented with a plaque. Pictured, from left are: Marsey Scott, lighthorse chief; Shelly Crow, R.N., M.S.N., second chief; and Everett Brake, lighthorse administration. In back is Jerry Williams, lighthorse administration. Also, honored by Red Cross were Joe Mosquito and Jeff Fife, both lighthorse administration.



submitted photo



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Concharly United Methodist Church youth raised money at the Northeast District Seniors Annual Camp Meeting through the sales of t-shirts designed by members Teauna Wilson (third from left) and Brian On-The-Hill (third from right). Pictured from left, customers Graciela Bigpond and Ashley McClain, Concharly youth members Wilson, Nathan Wilson, On-The-Hill, Greg Tiger, and Amy Wilson.

Special election

continued from page 1

National Council Act 95-37 proposes that Article VI, Section 2 — currently affording the National Council "...one representative from each district and one additional representative for each 1,000 citizens" — be amended to limit the number of representatives to one "...from each district and one additional representative for each 1,500 citizens." It will also cap the number of representatives at 26.

Article VI, Section 2(C) maintains district representatives be full tribal citizens of age 18 in order to hold office. National Council Act 95-45 proposes individuals having a "...felony conviction within the past 10 years as of date of filing for candidacy, in a court of competent jurisdiction" be ineligible to hold district office.

Religion

continued from page 9

Assembly of God, and is the first American Indian to receive this award.

Jones has been a member of the church for 16 years and has held a variety of roles, including secretary-treasurer of the women's ministries. She is currently the vice president-elect of the women's ministries.

She is the daughter of Lola Fulsom and the late Tom Hardridge of Kellyville.

Many Springs homecoming report

HOLDENVILLE — More than 200 attended services May 6 at the Many Springs Baptist Church

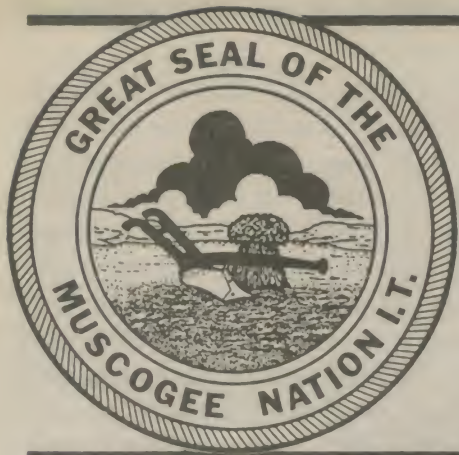
homecoming. Revs. Jimmie Anderson, Eddie Gooden, Tom Bear Jr., James Bruner, and Malcolm Tiger served as hosts. Among the families represented were: Mattie Anderson; Arthur and Izora Bruner; Tom and Lucinda Bear; the Bucks; Mose and Irene Cornell; Cheparney and Martha Davis; Lizzie Factor; the Fishes; George and Katie Gooden; Elliot McCosar; and Matthew McCosar.

Annie, Gooden, Willie Gooden, and Nellie McCosar were recognized for being the oldest members present. Judy McCosar Two Two and Leona Buck Brooks travelled the farthest — Los Angeles and Orlando, Fla., respectively. Nellie McCosar was recognized for having the most family members present.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Quarterly Financial Statement
Quarter Ending March 31, 1995

Prepared by the Controller's Office and published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, Vol. 24, issue 6, in accordance with NCA 88-70 at section 112.

PROGRAM NAME	RECEIPTS	BUDGET	ENCUMBERED	EXPENDED	UNENCUMBERED
20% ICUSA	264,124	263,000	0	19,250	243,750
MCN Legal Defense Fund	291,256	290,000	0	44,414	245,586
Treasury	8,634	0	0	60	60
Litigation & Lobbying	173,905	22,352	0	6,396	15,956
General Taxes & License	583,746	675,292	0	644,665	30,627
Administration / Indirect	841,452	1,554,513	0	938,584	615,929
Consumer Loans	8,807	0	0	56,020	56,020
Creek Nation Bingo	1,061,514	1,315,475	0	780,307	535,168
CN Permanent Fund	4,007,309	570,000	0	564,225	5,775
1993 Tribal Budget	267,912	857,018	0	321,797	535,221
Tax Commission	94,314	193,268	0	47,609	145,659
CCDBG '92	476,200	1,537,204	0	496,825	1,040,379
Homeless Assist. Act '9	94	193	0	150	43
HHS - Head Start	153,646	158,735	0	153,646	5,089
Com. Ser. Block Grant	13	0	0	0	0
L.I.H.E.A.P.	5,135	0	0	0	0
Title IV - B Children S	34,350	112,026	0	37,826	74,200
Child Abuse Prev/Educ.	71,826	163,174	0	75,763	87,411
Dept. Comm. & Fam. Ser	116,967	1,774,217	0	132,403	1,641,814
Dept. of Public Health	6,690	651,263	0	6,690	644,573
Tribal Affairs	707,179	699,318	0	642,777	56,541
Division of Human Devel	3,422	3,989	0	3,439	550
Cultural Science	0	6,074	0	6,010	64
FDP - FY '93	155,557	329,965	0	192,132	137,833
Headstart USDA Reimburse	41,332	47,722	0	28,021	19,701
Euf. Dorm - Activity Fun	90	0	0	0	0
Election Board	446	12,000	0	535	11,465
Self-Governance Compact	5,531,283	4,908,327	0	1,999,333	2,908,994
D. of Human Development	11,665	59,927	0	0	59,927
BIA - Aid to Tribal Gov	11,183	0	0	0	0
BIA - Natural Resources	18,652	0	0	0	0
BIA - Agriculture	3,752	3,752	0	3,752	0
BIA - Housing	2,343	484	0	0	484
Eufaula Dormitory	767,998	1,061,097	0	542,140	518,957
Tribal Self Governance	2,111	0	0	0	0
BIA - Trans. Improv. Pro	20,095	48,342	0	24,140	24,202
JOM Program	180,736	937,564	0	222,261	715,303
SG Negotiation Grant	32	0	0	0	0
Comprehensive Planning	0	49,613	0	0	49,613
Employment & Training	578,647	938,116	0	618,078	320,038
Department of Education	289,215	915,671	0	322,033	593,638
Community Serv. Bldg.	144,824	624,625	0	16,405	608,220
Tribal Agric. Program	0	0	0	2,284	(2,284)
Lighthorse Services	70,083	0	0	137,972	(137,972)
Construction Company	30,165	50,797	0	46,183	4,614
Communication RevIng. Fn	1,114	0	0	0	0
Investment Trust	314,523	0	0	0	0
C.N. Taxes & Fringe	1,101	0	0	503,745	(503,745)
Nonexpendable Trust	26	0	0	0	0
Tribal - Real Prop. & F	237,305	595,083	0	307,733	287,350
Tribal - Property & Supp	17,957	208,500	0	39,863	168,637
CN Foun. Scholarship Fu	1,940	0	0	1,459	(1,459)
Festival Committee	<u>4,801</u>	<u>29,930</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>349</u>	<u>29,581</u>
Totals	\$17,617,471	\$21,668,626	\$0	\$9,987,274	\$11,793,512



The Muscogee Nation News

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July 1995, 16 Pages

Muscogee voters to decide constitutional referendum July 22

OKMULGEE — Muscogee voters will consider three amendments to the tribal constitution in a July 22 referendum.

The proposed amendments concern the reduction and apportionment of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, a requirement of tribal court justices to not have any felony convictions, and a requirement that Council representatives not have any felony convictions within 10 years at the time of filing for office.

Ratification of the amendments requires a two-thirds majority of all ballots cast.

The amendments will read as follows:

• Article [6], Section 2, first paragraph:

All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall consist of one (1) House with one (1) Representative from each district and one (1) additional representative for each 1,500 citizens. And further, that the number of National Council Representatives will be set at a maximum of twenty-six (26) members and additional seats may not be added without

please see VOTE..., page 16

Welty woman named 1995-96 Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation

WEWOKA — At an early age, Royce Lynn Grammar learned that the Mvskoke language was a social skill essential to coexisting in her family. It is the only language spoken in her home.

Upon being crowned Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation 1995-96, there was no question as to what her number one objective would be — the perpetuation of Mvskoke language and culture.

After competing against nine other girls, Royce was announced as Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation 1995-96 on June 15.

"I couldn't believe it; I was just amazed. I was shocked all the way home — I really didn't think I'd get it," she said.

Becoming Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation has been one of Royce's goals since she was a little girl. "Growing up and watching other princesses fulfill their duties as the reigning princess, I

longed to be in their shoes...,," she wrote in a pageant-required essay.

At age 21 — the eldest age at which a contestant is eligible to



Grammar

run for the title — she admits that time was a big motivating factor in her decision to run.

Being raised in an environment where her indigenous tongue was dominant, Royce speaks, reads, and writes the Mvskoke language. She attributes the teachings of her great-grandmother — the late Sarah Coker Ahfonoke-Hicks — as being

please see GRAMMAR..., page 16

Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation pageant results

OKMULGEE — After an evening of competition with nine other young ladies, Royce Lynn Grammar was crowned Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation 1995-96 on June 15.

Escorted by her cousin, Chad Kevin Smith, Grammar competed against

please see RESULTS..., page 12



Morgan



Lowry

Intertribal schedule

July 13

8 a.m. — golf tournament, Okmulgee Country Club

9 a.m. — Oklahoma Indian Head Start Director's Association, Sherryl Gonseth, ext. 337

10 a.m. — Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association, Rocky McIntosh, ext. 235

10 a.m. to noon — health committee, Ed Mouss, (918) 756-4333;

10 a.m. to noon — law enforcement meeting, Marsey Scott, ext. 378

10 a.m. to noon — general education assembly of all programs, Valeria Littlecreek, ext. 607

11 a.m. to noon — communications, Jim Wolfe, ext. 312

1 to 3 p.m. — social services, Judy Haumpy, ext. 380

1 to 4 p.m. — environmental services, Harley Little, ext. 271

1 to 5 p.m. — children and family services, Janet Wise, 756-2112

1 to 4 p.m. — economic development, Andrew Skeeter, ext. 400

1:30 p.m. — Individual program meetings-presentations

• Johnson O'Malley, Ken Taryole, ext. 606

• employment and training, Curtis Hicks, ext. 620

• higher education, Chenenna Davis, ext. 614

• adult education, Cheryl Bear, ext. 612

• cultural preservation-repatriation meeting, Alan Cook, ext. 602

3 p.m. — Intertribal Council Committee meeting

6 p.m. — Creek Council House Museum Open House and Exhibits

7 p.m. — historic reenactment — "Execution of Timmie Jack," Council House grounds

8 p.m. — reception, Council House Grounds

July 14

8 a.m. — Coffee and donuts, Creek Council House Museum

9 a.m. — Intertribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, House of Warriors

Muscogee Nation hosts Five Tribes Intertribal Council quarterly meet

OKMULGEE — The third quarterly meeting of the Five Civilized Tribes Intertribal Council will be held at 9 a.m., July 14 at the Creek Council House Museum, House of Warriors, located on the Town Square at Sixth and Grand Streets.

Established in 1952, the intertribal council is composed of representatives of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee, and Seminole nations.

The majority of activities July 13 will be held at Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee Student Union, located at Fourth and Mission streets. Session coordinators may be contacted by calling (918) 756-8700 and their respective extension numbers listed on the itinerary.

Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Royce Lynn Grammar, as well as tribal royalty representing the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw and Seminole nations, will also participate in the meeting.

Second Chief Crow announces candidacy for principal chief

by Shelly Crow, second chief

I would like to announce my intention to become the next principal chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

This announcement serves as a statement of my sincere desire and commitment to continue to serve the citizens of this great Indian nation as our Creator and our ancestors intended.

The upcoming election this fall (Oct. 28) represents an opportunity for you, the Mvskoke people, to restore strong leadership and unity to your government and to regain the ground that has been lost through ineffective, uncaring, management of your tribal resources — culture, traditions, people, time, land, equipment, facilities, programs, businesses, and money.

For over three years this tribe has been in a continual state of planning. There has been no implementation, no results, and no action, only reaction. We cannot make progress as long as we continue to react in the same manner to the same old problems. A fresh, proactive approach is needed.

As your principal chief, I will assume responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the tribe. Under this new leadership, whomever the Muscogee people elect as their second chief will be second in command. All employees and citizens will be treated equally — with respect and recognition for their dedication and the many sacrifices they give of themselves to better our nation.

I have diligently prepared myself for the challenge to serve you as your principal chief. As second chief, I have demonstrated my total dedication and unselfish commitment to Mvskoke people.

My response to a problem, is action — proactive and immediate.

I am also, looking for good people to join me in my campaign to become principal chief. There is much work to do in getting my message out to citizens. If you would like to join me on this mission, just write: Shelly Crow, P.O. Box 632, Henryetta, OK 74437; or phone (918) 445-2464 or 1 (800) 847-2769.



Letters to the editor

Program manager offers thanks, tips

Editor:

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Women, Infants and Children Program has continued to grow since its beginning in October 1994. The program, in addition to providing nutritious food, provides education to improve the eating habits and health of the participants and family. Women, infants, and children to the age of five, must be screened by WIC or medical personnel with the assessment of health history, height, weight, and hematocrit. The WIC staff recently provided materials and samples of approved foods at the Creek Nation Festival Olympics (where approximately 530 children participated) and at the Festival parade through downtown Okmulgee.

On behalf of the WIC program I would like to say a special thanks to those who made the outreach promotion a success:

- all tribal health administration employees who volunteered and helped;
- Nancy Harry and Ralston Foods/Beech-Nut Nutrition;
- Joe Bonanno, Nestle Beverage Company;
- Susan Shade, Quaker Oats Company;
- Alexis Hersh, Welch's;
- John Bretanus and Kathy Beck, Idea Factory;
- tribal food distribution program; and
- Massey Graphics.

Participants now enrolled in other county or tribal WIC programs who find Muscogee Nation WIC sites more convenient are welcome to transfer. The WIC benefits are available to all persons regardless of age, sex, handicap, race, color, or national origin. For more information, contact the WIC office. We will be happy to answer your questions about the services and program requirements. Call (918) 758-2722 or toll free, 1 (800) 648-2302.

Robyn Whitecloud, Okmulgee

Editor's note: Whitecloud is acting manager of the tribal WIC program.

Citizen inquires about case

Editor:

I have just received a Tulsa Creek Indian Community newsletter. The writer, editor, and press agent is Paula Perkins Willits. I do trust she will be more responsible in these roles than she was previously as secretary of the board. To my knowledge, she never furnished a set of minutes for meetings held during her term of office.

Community members were neither informed nor invited to the so-called conference for board members held June 3 at Trade Winds Central. It was stated the workshop was offered to communities in the Creek Nation who wanted to learn more about how a community should be run. What a joke. I feel sure they failed to mention this very board is in litigation pending a hearing date. Judge Pat Moore stated it would be a week to 10 days before another judge would be selected to hear the case. This was April 21, in Okmulgee.

Our organization practices nepotism, conflict of interest, and irresponsible spending practices, to name a few. The chair, Pat Kelley, has been very rude to

representatives as well as elder members in the community. She went so far as to ask why we didn't start a community of our own in Broken Arrow. I must remind her, that I wrote the bill in National Council that provided the (Tulsa) smoke shop where the revenue is coming from that she enjoys spending so. I would personally like to see some of this money spent on a much needed mini bus — furnished with a wheel chair lift — to provide transportation for our citizens to clinics and the Creek Nation complex.

[I believe] theft is pretty common in the community smoke shops. It will not stop until someone is prosecuted and made to reimburse the money taken. Until punishment and (a means of) restitution is implemented, it will get worse.

An embezzlement in the neighborhood of \$25,000 was considered an "insignificant" amount by Owen Sapulpa, our last chairperson. I say it is significant enough to reopen the case and prosecute the alleged perpetrator.

We ask for accountability and request the board develop a system that provides checks and balances so that our funds are spent wisely and on our people. **Okema Randall, Broken Arrow**

Editor's note: Muscogee Nation Bar Association member Stephen Foster of Bristow has been appointed special judge to hear the Tulsa community case. Foster said he is reviewing all files and will set a hearing date soon.

Shell maker discusses craft

Editor:

I would like to express my gratitude to the people who in the past have bought turtle leggings from me. I want to let all the people — Indian and non-Indian — that I have not made any turtle leggings this year.

please see LETTERS..., page 11

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

James Wolfe, managing editor
Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff writer

Reminder to our readers

The Muscogee Nation News is an entitlement provided to citizens upon request and proof of tribal citizenship at no cost to citizens. Subscriptions are limited to one per household.

Space is limited. Help us serve you better by including the appropriate roll number with items submitted to *The MNN* (no poetry). Photographs will be returned if a return address is included.

Please include your roll number in all correspondence regarding subscriptions. — Eds.

How they voted

Council adds another amendment to referendum

OKMULGEE — Results from the June 24 Muscogee (Creek) National Council regular session at the tribal capitol complex.

Absent from the meeting were: Larry Bible; Tulsa Dist.; Darrell Coachman, Tukvptce Dist.; and Earl Wheeler, Creek Dist.; Speaker Thomas Yahola conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Number, Title, Vote

• National Council Resolution 95-18 — A resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council confirming Eugenia Thompson to the election board. Pass, 32-0 (unanimous).

• National Council Act 95-71 — A bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending NCA 93-114; establishing policy for quarterly and regular meetings of the National Council. Pass, 32-0 (unanimous).

• NCA 95-72 — A bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation proposing [an amendment] to the Muscogee Constitution at Article 7, Section 2 [no felony convictions for tribal Supreme Court Justices]. Pass, 25-7.

Voting by district

Creek District — Yes: Leah Jack; Phyllis Warrington; No: Duke Harjo;

McIntosh District — Yes: Wilbur Gouge; Sandy McIntosh; Thomas McIntosh; Tommy Pickering; and Yahola Townsend;

Muskogee District — No: Helen Chupco; Frances Pease; and Charlie Coker;

Okfuskee District — Yes: Wynema Roberts; Clyde Johnson; and Bruce Smith; No: Mae Jackson;

Okmulgee District — Yes: A.D. Ellis; Anderson Hale; Jim Harjo; Charlie Litsey; Peggy Lyda; Dave Lewis; and David Nichols;

Tukvptce District — Yes: Tim Fife and Dwayne Lowe;

Tulsa District — Yes: Irene Cleghorn; Jesse Kelley; Steve Bruner; and Earl King; No: Perry Beaver and Edwin Moore;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District — Yes: Richard Berryhill; Barbara Gillespie.

• NCA 95-73 — A bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation proposing [an amendment to] the Muscogee Constitution at Article 3, Section 1 (citizenship board). Fail, 17-15 (passage requires two-thirds majority).

Voting by district

Creek — Yes: Warrington; Harjo and Jack; McIntosh — Yes: Gouge; Pickering; and Townsend; No: S. McIntosh and T. McIntosh;

Muskogee — No: Chupco; Coker; and Pease; Okfuskee — Yes: Jackson; Johnson; Roberts; and Smith;

Okmulgee — Yes: Ellis; Hale; Lewis; Lyda; and Nichols; No: Harjo; Litsey;

Tukvptce — Yes: Lowe; No: Fife;

Tulsa — Yes: King; No: Beaver; Bruner; Cleghorn; Kelley; and Moore;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes — Yes: Berryhill and Gillespie.

• NCA 95-74 — A bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation proposing [an amendment to] the Muscogee Constitution at Article IV Section 1 (election board). Fail, 13-19.

Voting by district

Creek — Yes: Warrington; No: Harjo and Jack; McIntosh — Yes: Gouge and Pickering; No: S. McIntosh; T. McIntosh; and Townsend;

Muskogee — No: Chupco; Coker; and Pease; Okfuskee — No: Jackson; Johnson; Roberts; and Smith;

Okmulgee — Yes: Ellis; Hale; Harjo; and Nichols; No: Litsey; Lyda; and Lewis;

Tukvptce — Yes: Fife and Lowe;

Tulsa — Yes: King; No: Beaver; Bruner; Cleghorn; Kelley; and Moore;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes — Yes: Berryhill and Gillespie.

• NCA 95-78 — A bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation requiring that all appointed and confirmed members of Muscogee Nation boards, commissions, and-or civil officers do not have previous felony convictions. Pass, 20-12.

Voting by district

Creek — Yes: Harjo; Jack; and Warrington; McIntosh — Yes: Gouge; Pickering; and Townsend; No: S. McIntosh and T. McIntosh;

Muskogee — Yes: Coker; No: Chupco and Pease;

Okfuskee — No: Jackson; Johnson; Roberts; and Smith;

Okmulgee — Yes: Ellis; Hale; Harjo; Lewis; Litsey; Lyda; and Nichols;

Tukvptce — Yes: Fife and Lowe;

Tulsa — Yes: Bruner and King; No: Beaver; Cleghorn; Kelley; and Moore;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes — Yes: Berryhill and Gillespie.

• NCA 95-77 — A bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation terminating Wendell Bigpond from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board. Pass, 23-9.

Voting by district

Creek — Yes: Jack and Warrington; No: Harjo; McIntosh — Yes: S. McIntosh and T. McIntosh;

No: Gouge; Pickering; and Townsend;

Muskogee — Yes: Pease; No: Chupco and Coker;

Okfuskee — Yes: Johnson; Roberts; and Smith; Okmulgee — Yes: Ellis; Hale; Lyda; and Nichols;

No: Harjo; Lewis; and Litsey;

Tukvptce — Yes: Fife and Lowe;

Tulsa — Yes: Beaver; King; Cleghorn; and Moore; No: Bruner and Kelle;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes — Yes: Berryhill and Gillespie.

• NCA 95-79 — A bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation proposing [an amendment to] the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at Article 6 Section 2 (b) (residency). Pass, 26-6.

Voting by district

Creek — Yes: Harjo; Jack; and Warrington; McIntosh — Yes: Gouge; S. McIntosh; Pickering; and Townsend; No: T. McIntosh;

Muskogee — No: Chupco; Coker; and Pease; Okfuskee — Yes: Johnson; Roberts; and Smith;

No: Jackson;

Okmulgee — Yes: Ellis; Hale; Harjo; Litsey; Lyda; and Nichols; No: Lewis;

Tukvptce — Yes: Fife and Lowe;

Absentee citizens to declare districts

OKMULGEE — All citizens residing outside the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries are required by ordinance to specify a district for National Council representation. The district selections are:

- Creek;
- McIntosh;
- Muskogee;
- Okfuskee;
- Okmulgee;
- Tukvptce (formerly Hughes-Seminole);
- Tulsa; and
- Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes.

Any citizen living outside the tribal boundaries is asked to contact the tribal citizenship board at (918) 756-8700, exts. 224, 219, and 229 or P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. The deadline for declaration is July 28.

Tulsa — Yes: Beaver; Cleghorn; Kelley; King; and Moore; No: Bruner;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes — Yes: Berryhill and Gillespie.

• Tribal Resolution 95-07 — A resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) tribe in conjunction with the county and state department of transportation honoring deserving and notable Muscogee citizens. Pass, 30-0 (unanimous). Absent were: Beaver and Bible, Tulsa Dist.; Coachman, Tukvptce Dist.; Jackson, Okfuskee Dist.; and Wheeler, Creek Dist.;

• NCA 95-69 — A bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation certifying surplus equipment and authorizing the road construction program to sell surplus equipment. Return to committee, 20-10.

Voting by district

Creek — Yes: Harjo; Jack; and Warrington; McIntosh — Yes: S. McIntosh; No: Gouge; T. McIntosh; Pickering; and Townsend;

Muskogee — Yes: Chupco; Coker; and Pease;

Okfuskee — Yes: Johnson and Roberts; No: Smith;

Okmulgee — Yes: Ellis; Harjo; Lewis; Lyda; and Nichols; No: Hale and Litsey;

Tukvptce — Yes: Lowe; No: Fife;

Tulsa — Yes: Bruner; Cleghorn; and Kelley; No: King and Moore;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes — Yes: Berryhill and Gillespie.

• NCA 95-76 — A bill of the Muscogee Nation authorizing Hanna Indian Community the use of additional property. Pass, 30-0 (unanimous).

• NCA 95-68 — A bill of the Muscogee Nation appropriating funds for the honorariums to participating ceremonial grounds in the 1995 Council Oak Ceremony. Returned to committee for funding source, 24-4.

Voting by district

Creek — Yes: Harjo; Jack; and Warrington; McIntosh — Yes: Pickering and Townsend; No: Gouge; Absent: S. McIntosh and T. McIntosh;

Muskogee — Yes: Chupco; Coker; and Pease;

Okfuskee — Yes: Johnson; Roberts; and Smith;

Okmulgee — Yes: Ellis; Hale; Harjo; Litsey; Lyda; and Nichols; No: Lewis;

Tukvptce — Yes: Fife and Lowe;

Tulsa — Yes: Bruner; Cleghorn; and Kelley; No: King and Moore;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes — Yes: Berryhill and Gillespie.

Tribe to accept school clothing applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration is accepting applications for school clothing assistance at tribal community centers. Enrolled citizens living outside the tribal jurisdiction can contact the department at 1 (800) 521-5432 or (918) 756-2112 to request an application.

There are four requirements for eligibility. They are:

- each child must be an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;
- children must be enrolled in grades kindergarten through 12;
- must have proof of current enrollment in school; and
- household income must be within guidelines.

Application will include forms regarding income, school enrollment, and proof of tribal enrollment. Applicants must also provide the name and address of the vendor they intend to utilize.

The following schedule includes the district, date, application site, and the number of grants available.

Muscogee — Aug. 8, Muskogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia, 126;

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes — Aug. 9, Koweta Indian Community Center, 30901 E. 141st St., Coweta, 76;

McIntosh — Aug. 10, Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forrest Ave., 236;

Tukvptce — Aug. 11, Holdenville Indian Community Center, 416 E. Poplar, 179;

Tulsa — Aug. 14, Tulsa Creek Indian Community offices, 6363 E. 31st St., Rm. 105, 396;

Okmulgee — Aug. 15, Okmulgee Indian Community Center, 2710 N. Miami, 353;

Creek — Aug. 16, Sapulpa Indian Community office, 1030 E. Taft, Suite 110, 228; and

Okfuskee — Aug. 17, Okfuskee Indian Community Center, 206.

Applications from those residing outside the tribal jurisdictional service area will be received through Aug. 18.

All grants will be dispensed by checks made payable to the vendor of your choice. There will be no vouchers issued.

Household size — gross monthly income	
2 —	\$1,451
3 —	\$1,792
4 —	\$2,134
5 —	\$2,475
6 —	\$2,817
7 —	\$2,881
8 —	\$2,945

Tribe to accept energy assistance applications

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services will begin taking applications for the tribal energy assistance program for those individuals 55 years of age and older.

Applications can be made at the social services offices from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Applicants that have received assistance from other agencies are ineligible for the tribal program. For those individuals who are uncertain as to what program they may have qualified previously, contact social services at (918) 756-8700.

Applications will be taken in the field on the following dates:

Aug. 1 — Holdenville Indian Community Center, 416 E. Poplar, 9 to 11 a.m.

Aug. 1 — Muskogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia, 1 to 3 p.m.

Aug. 2 — Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Division, 9 to 11 a.m.

Aug. 3 — Eufaula Indian Community Center, 702 Forrest Ave., 9 to 11 a.m.

Aug. 3 — Sapulpa Indian Health Clinic, 1125 E. Cleveland, 1 to 3 p.m.

To be eligible for consideration for the tribal energy assistance program, the following information must be provided:

- proof of Muscogee (Creek) tribal enrollment (citizenship card);
- must not have previously participated in any other energy assistance programs within the past year; and
- must be 55 years and older.

Citizens residing outside the tribal jurisdiction, may contact social services for details on how to make application.

Tribal official, employee published

OKMULGEE — Second Chief Shelly Crow, M.S., R.N., and Timmy Thompson, *helas haya* (medicine man) and cultural researcher for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, have collaborated with Donna Wing, associate professor of nursing at the University of Tulsa, on an article published in "Family and Community Health, The Journal of Health Promotion and Maintenance".

Their work is entitled "An ethn nursing study of Muscogee (Creek) Indians and effective health care practices for treating alcohol abuse".

The purpose of the research was to identify barriers to seeking and obtaining care for alcoholism and alcohol-related problems among Muscogee Indians in rural eastern Oklahoma and to learn the culturally-based view that contributes to effective health practices in the care of alcohol abuse.

This is the first time this type of study has been done specifically for Muscogee people.

It is the belief of the three that the primary objective of this study is to unite health care practitioners, regardless of area of practice, to some common goals: teaching the essentials of self-care; family and community health care; and health promotion and maintenance.

Through this holistic approach to health care, the authors contend the number of illnesses requiring hospitalization can be reduced and related health care costs can be cut substantially.

This study was funded by grants from: Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST) #HR3-044; Sigma Theta Tau International; Sigma Theta Tau Beta Delta Chapter; and the Oklahoma Nurses Foundation.

This grant provided monies only for expenditures to do the survey — mileage, printing, etc. No royalties will be received from the printing. This study was approved in 1992 by the

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Hospital and Clinics Board, the Community Services Committee, and the Principal Chief.

"I would like to thank Helen Coon, who was a health board member in 1992, former National Council representative Tom Berryhill, and Principal Chief Bill Fife," Crow said.



Thompson, Crow

Copies of the article and study are available from the Second Chief. Call (918) 756-8700, ext 222 or write P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Notice of public hearing

OKMULGEE — A public hearing is scheduled for the Muscogee Nation Children and Family Services Administration Child Care Development Block Grant will begin at 6 p.m. Aug. 10 at the independent agencies (mound) building at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56. The child care and development block grant is a program that provides financial assistance for income eligible tribal citizens towards their monthly child care obligations.

Student achievement

Alice Tiger

HOUSTON — Muscogee citizen Alice Tiger was one of four Indian students from Liberty Elementary School in Sapulpa that travelled to Galveston and Houston in March.

The students were required to write an essay, maintain acceptable behavior and grades to participate through the Sapulpa Indian Education program.

The trip consisted of many educational activities which included touring the Johnson Space Center and the Houston Museum of Natural Science, taking a simulated trip to Mars where the students landed successfully, and a trip to Moody Gardens to learn about the rain forests of the world.



Tiger

Amanda Burley

CARROLLTON, Texas — Muscogee citizen Amanda Burley graduated from the sixth grade at Rosemeade Baptist Christian School.

She was an honor student all six years. Burley is the daughter of Jim and Hattie Burley of Carrollton, and the granddaughter of the late Shine and Anna Miller of Mounds.



Burley

Aaron Daniel Tecumseh

OKMULGEE — Aaron Daniel Tecumseh, 11 year old son of Andrew and Louise Tecumseh of Twin Hills, completed two weeks of college for kids at Green Country Vocational Technical School. His classes included law enforcement, business and computer technology, carpentry, and health technology.

Tecumseh is an honor student at Twin Hills Elementary School and will be a sixth grader this fall. He has received many awards and is a member of the academic team. He also scored in the top seven percent in the nation on the Iowa Tests given at Twin Hills. He is active in baseball, basketball, and is also a member of the Chinese Kara-Ho Kempo Karate School. He has entered several tournaments and has won many trophies and is currently ranked a Green Belt.

He is the grandson of Annie and the late Jay Haynes of Okmulgee, and Evelyn and the late Andy Tecumseh of Twin Hills.



Tecumseh

Theda Roulston

LITTLE AXE — Muscogee citizen Theda Roulston, was presented a trophy from her coach for honorable mention for the "Little City All State Team." Roulston was the number one rebounder in the state for her class averaging 13 caroms per game while averaging 15.2 points per game.

She was selected most valuable player for the Canadian Valley Conference and received special recognition for five-on-five girls basketball. She also broke a school record in the long jump recording a distance of 16 feet 2 inches and qualified for the state track meet. Roulston is the daughter of Terry and Joammie Walker of Newalla, and Tony Roulston of Sasawka. She is the granddaughter of Rev. Alex Burgess and the late Joan Burgess of Wolf.

Mindy Beare

HARTSHORNE — Muscogee citizen Mindy Mae Beare, a 15-year-old student at Hartshorne Junior High School, was chosen as co-salutatorian with a grade point average of 4.02. Beare has attended Hartshorne School for 10 years. She has been named to the Oklahoma Honor Society for the past three years. Beare is active in band, basketball, softball, and the livestock showing team. She is also captain of the academic team, secretary of the band council, president of her church youth group, and youth representative to the Administrator's Board at Edgewood United Methodist Church. She also received recognition for her work in algebra, history, and honors English. She was a recipient of the American Legion Certificate of School Award.



Beare

She is the daughter of Mickey and Karen Beare, and the granddaughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. P. Lerblance Jr. of Hartshorne, and the late Mr. and Mrs. T.C. Beare.

Jamie Burley

CARROLLTON, Texas — Muscogee citizen Jamie Burley graduated in the top ten percent of her class from Newman Smith High School. She is a member of the National Honor Society and the National Spanish Honor Society. Burley has been a member of the Newman Smith Symphony for four years as first chair flute. Her future plans are to attend Oklahoma State University and major in pre-medicine. She is the daughter of Jim and Hattie Burley of Carrollton, and the granddaughter of the late Shine and Anna Miller of Mounds.



Burley

Muscogee collegians

Reba Northcutt Cardoza

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Muscogee citizen Reba Northcutt Cardoza has received her juris doctorate from Lincoln Law School. The 1960 Eufaula high School graduate is of Tuskegee Tribal Town and Bear Clan. She is the daughter of the late Shorty and Gladys Northcutt of Eufaula, and the great-great granddaughter of Abbie Lowe. She and her husband, Al, reside in Vacaville, Calif.

Kendall J. Little

NORMAN — Muscogee citizen Kendall J. Little has been elected vice-president of the University of Oklahoma student body for 1995-96. He was also recognized at the 1995 Senior Awards Reception as an outstanding junior and member of Omicron Delta Kappa scholastic society. While a member of the Student Congress, Kendall has been a life and physical science representative, served on the academic affairs committee; congressional administrative committee; and faculty senate liaison. Little has also been a member of congress planning council, student disciplinary committee, American Indian Student Association, and the American Indian Science and Engineering Society. He has received a plaque from the Native American Center of Excellence at O.U. Health Science Center for outstanding pre-medicine student at OU.

He is the son of Harley and Carol Little of Muskogee.



Little

Andrea Hawkins

SHAWNEE — Muscogee citizen Andrea Hawkins is this year's recipient of the Howard Yachus Memorial Award. She is a nursing student at Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee. The Howard Yachus Memorial award is given in memory of the late Howard Yachus, a California Grantee Job Training Partnership Act Program director, whose interest was to help American Indians to obtain a higher education degree.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Hawkins of Shawnee, and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Jones and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hawkins, all of Stidham. She is the great-granddaughter of Hattie Jones of Stidham.

Miss Hawkins has also been selected to receive a scholarship to pursue a career in pediatric nursing by the Norman Chapter of the "40 et 8" honor branch of the American Legion.



Hawkins

① Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation 1995-96

Royce Lynn Grammar, Welty, makes the acquaintance of Okmulgee Bingo ballplayer Angela "Pumpkin" Bunner, Oklahoma State University sophomore, at the Saturday afternoon games ② These young girls appear to need

no more than pipe and a water spicket to have a good time ③ Potential second generation

bullfighter Randy Peters, Skiatook, appears to be pleased with the face paint applied by his dad's associate, Pawhuska bullfighter Jerry Bridge ④ Seventy-five fourth annual Festival

5-K runners bolt across the start line. Larry Biddle, second from right, was the overall winner with a time of 19:52 ⑤ Cherokee cowboy Tony Girty, Warner, pins an entry number on his shirt as his son, Tanner, observes

⑥ Skiatook bullfighter Lee Peters applies the final touches with steady precision ⑦ Farron

Culley displays the plaque presented to him by youth olympics coordinators. Culley has exemplified commitment to Indian youth through his years of involvement with the olympics ⑧ Mvskoke youth Christina Tiger,

Okemah, Tina Burgess, Okemah, and Austin Jones, Morris, take a break from events to beat the heat with shade from an umbrella ⑨

Rocky Carney, a Seminole from Seminole, putts on the 18th hole at Arrowhead as Muscogee citizen Jerry Monday, Oklahoma City, observes ☒

1995 Festival Committee

Kenneth Factor, chair

Woody Anderson

Geri Berryhill

Henry Harjo

Dana Johnson

Pearl Thomas

Phyllis Warrington

James Wind

21st Annual CREEK NATION FESTIVAL

volleyball • tennis • softball • parade • hoops • 5K review

Although overall Festival event participation and attendance was less than that of previous years, it still remains to serve as a place for the reunion of families and the renewal of friendships.

Established in 1974, the weekend full of indigenous food, elders' activities, gospel singing, rodeo, and sporting events is a Native American-style homecoming to thousands of Indian people.

Festival was officially kicked-off with the standing-room-only 1995-96 Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation pageant on Thursday night. With the entry of 10 contestants

this year, it's evident that attendance has increased to such proportions that it has outgrown the mound auditorium ☒

The rodeo grand entry and events were well executed.

Although this year's crowd appeared thinner, the spectators did not lack for enthusiasm as this year's bull fighters provided two evenings of comical slap stick — as well as risked life and limb for many cowboys ☒ Okfuskee Indian Community

members

seemed to enjoy working at what they contend was the last of their five-year run as volleyball tournament coordinators ☒ A new event — Hoops Fest — debuted this year and drew crowds of large magnitude ☒ And, as always, there were the mainstay crowds — fast pitch softball players and fans that bore the heat and (yes) cold — long after the last vendor tents were folded up ☒



①



②



③



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1 Nuyaka Indian Community 2 Second Chief Shelly Crow waves to the crowd; also in tow are: dachshund, Rosebud; driver, John Crow; passenger, Rocky McIntosh; backseat, left to right, Wyquita Bear and Debbie Burgess 3 National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola and 1995-96 Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Royce Lynn Grammar cruise the parade with chauffeur and Miss MCN Committee member Suzanne McIntosh, and her daughter, Tana Chambers 4 Morris Indian Community 5 Danny Lindsey rides atop his "official Indian truck" 6 Miss Mvskoke (Creek) nation 1994-95 flashes her winning smile 7 Okmulgee elders Willie Gooden and Betsy Factor, front, were honored as king and queen of Festival activities sponsored by the Muscogee Nation Elderly Nutrition Program 8 Muscogee Nation Division of Health Administration 9 Principal Chief Bill Fife 10 Miss Tulsa Creek Indian Community Tracie Lowry is escorted by her father, Ken Alsup, and driver Don Tiger. Lowry's pre-removal tribal dress was made by Mvskoke-Seminole textile artist Jay McGirt



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2



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1 Little Miss Navajo-Creek Tamiko Dee is assisted by her father, James. She is the daughter of James and Tina Dee and granddaughter of Timmy and Joyce Thompson 2 Little Miss Indian Oklahoma Erica Lowe, a tribal citizen, is the daughter of Frank and Karon Lowe. She is the granddaughter of Rev. John and Eliza Lowe 3 1994-95 Chickasaw Nation Princess Rachel Stick 4 Cheyenne girls 5 Junior Miss Indian Tulsa Denise Graham 6 W&B's Rick Wolfe attempts to block Scott Howard of Tulsa 7 Fourth-time men's softball champs Oklahoma-Kansas: front, Jim McClung, Alan Tawkoyty, Rick Little Axe, coach Andy Girty, Vernon Yaholar, and Randy Fixaco, back row, Gary Girty, Steve Girty, Jeff Turtle, Skip Burgess, Charlie LaSarge, and Windy Ward

Hoops Fest

12 and under male

First — Satterfield's Hoopin' Spirits #1: Darren Harjo, Paul Kelley, Joshua Burgess, and Vincent Baccus

Second — Eufaula: Shon McIntosh, John McIntosh, James Deere, and Jerry Nickles

Third — Running Braves: Michael West, Ethan Bell, Aaron Tecumseh, and Ryan Taryole

15 and under male

First — Kansas-Oklahoma All-Stars: Austin Jones, Justin Daney, Joey Anderson, and Demetre Theus

Second — Harjochee: Harbor Harjochee, Jeremy Lunsford, and Mark Hale

Third — Badenov: Kristian Marshall, Nick Factor, Rocky Locust, and Larry Nofire

18 and under male

First — Littlecook: Jason Littlecook, Matt King, Darrell Simpson, and Bruce Proctor

Second — Satterfield's Hoopin' Spirits: Roy Phillips, Anthony Johnson, Justin Brunner, and Scott Harjo

Third — Glenpool Smokeshop

Open male "A" division

First — War Pigs: Carl Snow, Wesley Cloud, David Pascale, and Lucas Taylor

Second — W and B: Rick Wolfe, Eric Beatty, Micah Wolfe, and Harold Fox

Third — Eufaula: Stacy McIntosh, Bobby Jack, and Stacy McIntosh

Open male "B" division

First — Wild Dawgs: Mike Manley, Marcellas Morton, Max Frye, and Cliff Tholell

Second — Muscogee Nation Children and Family Services: Floyd Jones, Austin Jones, C.J. Harjo, and David Finch

Third — Warriors: Patrick Jones, Dan Jones, Ivan Bear, and Hershel Gorman awarded for first and second place. T-shirts

12 and under female

First — Grandma's Girls: Alicia Arsee, Lanita Barnett, Heather Kennedy, and Torie Cox

Second — Three Nations: Lela Isham, Loda Isham, Chrystal Isham, and Vanessa Batiste

15 and under female

First — Lady Braves: Missy Pigeon, Tessie Jimboy, La Quita Adams, and Roberta Lewis

Second — Eufaula: Cynthia McIntosh, Jamie Frederick, and Shimyko Warrior

Third — Whatever: Taryn Allen, Lisa Scott, Tasha Morgan, and Beth Bear

18 and under female

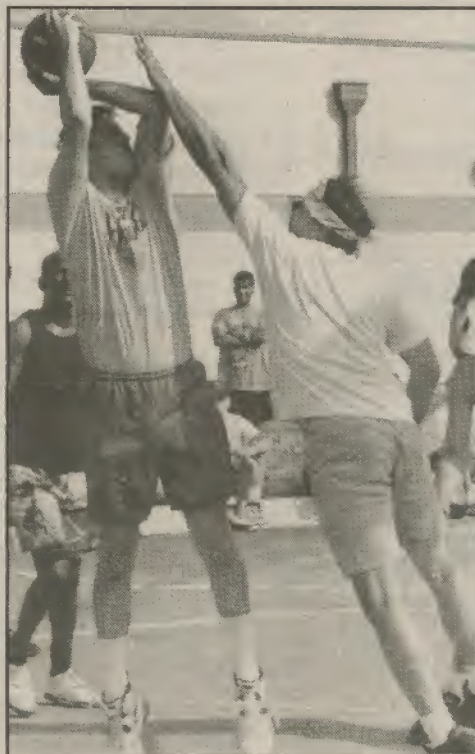
First — Glenpool: Kristen Childers, Sarah Graves, Tonya Graves, and Tammy Bigpond

Second — Fatty Hatty: Regina Wesley, Nicole Peak, Dawn Crowder, and Michele Walker

Open Female

First — Round Ballers: Amy Harjo, Debbie Burgess, and

Melissa Smith



6

Tennis results

Men's singles: Bruce Harjo def. Ray Alford (6-4, 6-2)

Consolation champion: Jaimie Brown

Women's singles: Nancy Sowards def. Len Yahola (6-0, 6-2)

Consolation champion: Ashley White

Men's 35 and over singles: Loy Thomas def. Len Yahola, (6-0, 6-3)

Consolation champion: Jimmy Hill

Men's doubles: Loy Thomas and Bruce Harjo def. Jaimie Brown and Bunny Hill (6-0, 6-2)

Womens' doubles: Nancy Sowards and Candace Vardell def. Janice Hanun and Suzanne Franks (6-0, 6-1)

Mixed doubles: Nellie Lasley and Bunny Hill def. Carlene Barnett and Floyd Bales (6-2, 6-0)

Volleyball

First — Team Work: Karen McNutt, Pryor

Second — Red Sticks, Curtis Hicks, Mason

Third — Shut Up and Serve, Kim Foreman, Broken Arrow

Sportsmanship — Top Flight, Phyllis Yargee

Female most valuable players — Alethea Johnson, Red Sticks, and Karen McNutt, Team Work

Male MVPS — Earnest McPerryman, Red Sticks, and Billy Ceasar, Team Work

Fastpitch softball

Men — **first:** Oklahoma-Kansas

Second: Dean's Landscaping

Third: Texhoma Giants

Sportsmanship: Regulators

Most valuable player: Windy Ward, Oklahoma-Kansas

All-stars: Oklahoma-Kansas — Gary Girty, Jeff Turtle, and Jim McClung; Dean's Landscape — Roger Bell, Pat McClung, and

Darrell Reining; Texhoma Giants — J.C. Fourkiller and Luther Battiest; Regulators — Robin Beaver

Women — **first:** All Tribes

Second: Rebels

Third: Okmulgee Bingo

Sportsmanship: MRK

Most valuable player: Lisa Smith, All Tribes

All-stars: All Tribes — Patty McGirt, Pam Mopoe, and Pam Gibson; Rebels — Nicole Farris, Stephanie Biggs, and Lori Alexander; Okmulgee Bingo — Robin White and Debbie

7



Muscogee births

Sierra Rain Lowe

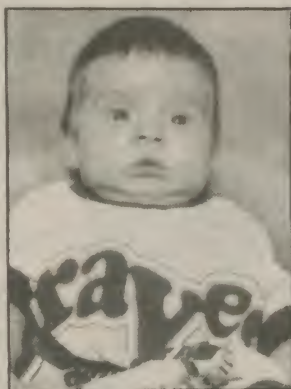
TULSA — Sierra Rain Lowe was born to Vincent and Amanda Lowe June 24 in Tulsa. Paternal grandparents are Gloria and Rusty Lowe of Tulsa.

River Alexander Postoak

OKMULGEE — River Alexander Postoak was born to Okmulgeans Jamie Burgess and Erick Postoak on March 31.

He weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 19 and one-half inches long at birth. He belongs to the Bear Clan.

His maternal grandparents are Jim and Ruthie Burgess of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Nakina Taryole and Johnny Leybas, both of Okmulgee.



Postoak

Community news

Checotah accepting candidates for office

CHECOTAH — The filing period for candidates running for Checotah Indian Community office is open.

Prospective candidates may file at the community office, located at 998 Maple, from 9 a.m. through 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday, July 15 through July 31.

Candidates must:

- be 18 years or older;
- be one-quarter blood Muscogee or more;
- reside within community boundaries at least 90 days prior to the election; and
- be a registered member of the community.

Absentee ballots must be requested in person by Aug. 31. For more information, contact Martha Armstrong at (918) 473-5290.

Tulsa to hold special election forum

TULSA — Tulsa Creek Indian Community held a forum to discuss the two proposed amendments to the Muscogee Nation Constitution. Second speaker Wilbur Gouge lead the discussion.

In other news:

- the community anticipates finalizing the purchase of property for a center;
- the board of directors sponsored a conference in June;
- Micco Wilson trained 12 TCIC children for the Festival youth olympics. The children returned home with four medals; and
- the community manned a concession booth at the omnplex during the Festival.

Four generations of original allottee

Pictured are four generations of original allottee Lora Patton Bowden Jennings. Seated from left are: Norma Joyce Bowden Scroggins and Jennings; standing are Christopher Gore, holding daughter, Arianna, and Julia Scroggins Gore. Jennings, Scroggins, and Gore were all born in the Okmulgee area. All five family members currently reside in Albuquerque, N.M. Gore is a second lieutenant in the Air Force ROTC program. He will be stationed at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nev. Jennings was part of the Women's Army Corps assigned to the Air Force during World War II.



Muscogee people

Creek Marine serves in Adriatic Sea

USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT, Adriatic Sea — Muscogee citizen Lance Corporal William D. Lowe is currently serving with the U.S. Marine detachment aboard the U.S.S. Theodore Roosevelt in the Adriatic Sea providing air support to troops in Bosnia.

Lowe is a squad leader and hand-to-hand combat instructor.

He is a Eufaula High School graduate. He attended Bacone College on a baseball scholarship. Lowe enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1993.

He is the son of May Marshall of Eufaula and Rusty and Gloria Lowe of Tulsa.



Lowe

Citizen relinquishes pow wow title

CANTON, Texas — Eighteen-year-old Muscogee citizen, Kokee Spring Beaver, relinquished her title as 1994 East Texas Native American Pow Wow Princess with the crowning of the 1995 princess, Shannon Begay.

Beaver is the daughter of Vance and Barbara Beaver of Kinder, La.



Beaver

Creek chosen as dancer in "Pocahontas"

ORLANDO, Fla. — Cynthia Jessie Goodrich has been selected as one of 32 dancers that will perform in Walt Disney World's stage show of "Pocahontas."

Goodrich, a computer graphic artist, is the owner and operator of Accent Interactive Media. The former Santa Fe resident and her son, Joshua, have moved to Orlando.

Goodrich studied dancing under renowned

American Indian ballerina Moscelyn Larkin and her spouse, the late Roman Jasinski of Tulsa. She was an extra in the recent television movie "Buffalo Girls" and appeared in a television commercial for Bud Light of New Mexico.

Goodrich is a 1978 graduate of Nathan Hale High School, Tulsa. Goodrich is the daughter of Wanda and Bill Morrison of Irving, Calif. and William G. Jessie of Idabel. She is the granddaughter of Hepsey and the late Clemon Gilroy of Wilson community and the late Ida Thompson of Idabel.



Goodrich

Citizen becomes affiliate of network

IRVING, Texas — Muscogee citizen Bobby Williams recently has become an affiliate of The Peoples Network. The network, which debuted in February, provides subscribers with information, skills, and resources for life change and improvement. A state-of-the-art communications network, it reaches homes with interactive programming focusing on personal development, relationships, careers, business, health, families, and parenting. For more information, write Williams at: 2608 W. Atlanta Court, Broken Arrow, OK 74012.

Reunions

WETUMKA — The family of the late Lewis and Mandy Marshall are invited to attend the Marshall family reunion at 11 a.m., Sept. 2. It will be held at Wetumka Community Center. It is requested that those attending bring a covered dish.

LAMAR — The descendents of the late John and Polly Scott Wesley will be holding a family reunion beginning at 10 a.m., Sept. 2. Gospel singing will be held in the afternoon. Vincent Wesley will be coordinating, as well as performing at the singing. The reunion will be held at Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church.

Muscogee Nation obituaries

MILDRED G BIBLE

GLENPOOL — Funeral services for Mildred H. Bible were held June 7 at Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church with Rev. John Lowe officiating and Revs. George Miller and David Wilde assisting.

She was born May 19, 1921 to Willie and Lydia McKellop Malone in Tulsa. She died June 2 at Hillcrest Medical Center.

Bible attended Coweta schools and married Dave Bible in 1952 at Holdenville. She was employed at Oral Roberts University and was a member of Haikey Chapel.

She was preceded in death by her husband.

Survivors include: her son and daughter-in-law, Billy Joe and Janice Reed of Fort Gibson; a sister, Velva Stout Farmer of Glenpool; two brothers, Sam W. Chisolm of Taos, N.M., and Andy Chisolm of Tulsa; three stepdaughters, Kathryn Jones of Tulsa, Lucille Miller of Ponca City, and Shirley Thomas of Okmulgee; two stepsons, David E. Bible of Tulsa and Robert Bible of Coweta; 14 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; many nieces; many nephews; and friends.

Pallbearers were: Kenneth Lowe; David L. Bible; Ken Childers; Rick Wilde; Robert Foxy Miller; and John Wilson.



Honorary pallbearers were: Geronimo Alexander; Joe Washington; John Johnson; Jack Spradling; and Kyle Taylor.

Interment was in the Park Grove Cemetery in Broken Arrow.

HENRY CHESTER FOSHEE

HITCHITA — Funeral services for Henry Chester Foshee were held May 17 at Hitchita Freewill Baptist Church with Revs. Maxie Adair and Lamar Kindell officiating.

Foshee died May 14 at his home.

An original allottee, he was born Dec. 27, 1902 to William and Lillian Walls Foshee. He married Delma Smith in 1928.

Foshee was a retired barber and was a member of New Hope Community Church and the Checotah Masonic Lodge #86 AF & M.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; and three brothers.

Survivors include: his wife, Delma; one daughter, Norma Wray of Hitchita; two granddaughters, Stephanie Reed of Phoenix, Ariz., and Sonja Wray of Hitchita; and three great-grandchildren, Shawn Wray of Hitchita, Courtney Reed, and Brittney Reed, both of Phoenix.

Pallbearers were: Bobby Duvall; Alvin Potts; Sonny Carson; Jimmy Dean Potts; Joe Ray Sparks; and Leo Allison. Honorary pallbearers were James Hogan; Ed Cook; Willard Carpenter; and Tom Potts.

Interment was in the Hitchita Lackey Cemetery.

ALICE BIGPOND ROACH

LINCOLN, Neb. — Funeral services for Alice Bigpond Roach were held May 24 at the Trinity United Methodist Church. Roach died May 21 of cancer.

She was born July 20, 1928 to Albert and Nellie Cooper Bigpond in Mounds.

Bigpond worked at the Lincoln Indian Center as a volunteer and staff member and served on its board of directors. She was the center's executive director from 1981-82.

She was a member of the private industry council, community human services planning council, strategic planning committee, Lincoln Action Program Board of Directors, Nebraska Job Training Council, Nebraska Commission for National and Community Service, National Advisory Council for Native American Employment and Training, co-chair of the National Indian Adult Education Association, and president of the Nebraska Indian Education Association.

Survivors include: her husband, Delius of the home; sons, Chuck Roach of San Antonio, Texas, Damon Roach of Plainview, Neb., and Kevin Roach of Kearney, Neb.; a brother, Roy Bigpond of Stillwell; sisters, Ruth Olney of Toppenish, Wash.; 10 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Interment was in Green Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Sapulpa.

Memorials may be made to Alice Roach Scholarship, Nebraska Indian Education Association.

Religion briefs

Reopening of Tallahassee a possibility

OKMULGEE — In June, a committee was formed to investigate the reopening of Tallahassee Methodist Church.

Committee members have been meeting in the home of Peggy King. Individuals interested in becoming involved in planning and organizing activities can obtain additional information by contacting Ann Hardman at: (918) 756-3245 or P.O. Box 128, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Buck Memorial gospel singing

HOLDENVILLE — The annual Buck Memorial All-Night Gospel Singing will begin nightly at 7, July 14 and 15 at Holdenville Indian Community Center, 416 E. Poplar. Hosted by the Buck Family, the two nights of singing will feature the Heartland Quartet, Crimson River, The Singing Orphan Family, Ada Harmonettes, and others. Admission is free and those attending are encouraged to bring lawn chairs.

Gratitude

We would like to express our appreciation to the Indian community center and friends that brought or sent food, flowers, and offered their assistance during the passing of our loved one.

A very special thank you to Virginia Nichewander for preparing dinner for us.

Mildred G. Bible family

Thank you to everyone who helped and contributed for the Bridgett A. Beaver Roberts funeral. Thank you for remembering our beloved sister, daughter, and mother.

Please continue praying for her four children as they need your continued support in life.

Bridgett A. Beaver Roberts family



Friends and relatives of Mary Gouge (center, in wheelchair) gathered at Little Quarsarte Baptist Church to observe her 90th birthday and fellowship. Rev. Fred Lindsey Jr. is the pastor.

photo by Jim Wolfe

Notice of public hearing

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will hold a public hearing on the programming of tribal judgment Funds for the fifth three year plan, beginning at 6 p.m., July 17 in the independent agencies (mound) building auditorium at the tribal capitol complex at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

These are the tribal funds of the Muscogee Nation received from judgments on claims against the United States. All Muscogee people are invited to attend and provide written or spoken comments.

Category	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998	Total
	30.5 %	33 %	36.5 %	100%
Tribal government — 25%	\$115,288	\$124,738	\$137,968	\$377,994
Tribal program — 10%	\$46,115	\$49,895	\$55,187	\$151,197
Economic development — 10%	\$46,115	\$49,895	\$55,187	\$151,197
Social welfare — 30%	\$138,345	\$149,686	\$165,561	\$453,592
Higher education — 25%	\$115,288	\$124,738	\$137,968	\$377,994
Totals	\$461,151	\$498,952	\$551,871	\$1,511,974

- Tribal government — National Council and secretary, the office of the principal chief, second chief, the supreme court and inferior courts, the citizenship and election boards, and other officers established by ordinance.
- Tribal programs — programs established by ordinance to promote the health, safety, welfare, rights, and other needs of the Muscogee (Creek) people.
- Economic development — tribal and community projects and enterprises which provide income and employment for the tribal entity as approved by ordinance.
- Social welfare — 33 percent of annual amount for emergency funds for eligible Muscogee (Creek) Indians according to guidelines established by ordinance; and 67 percent of annual amount for social welfare financial assistance for Muscogee (Creek) Indians who are fifty (50) years of age or older, according to guidelines established by ordinance.
- Higher education — scholarships to colleges and universities for Muscogee (Creek) Indians, according to guidelines established by ordinance.

Tribal bar association elects officers

SAPULPA — The 1995 Annual Meeting of the Muscogee Nation Bar Association was held recently highlighted by the election of officers.

New officers are: Houston Shirley of Bixby, president; Charles Tripp of Okmulgee, vice-president; and George Almerigi of Okmulgee, secretary-treasurer.

Special guest of the bar association was Muscogee citizen Montie Deer — an assistant U.S. Attorney who has been nominated for a federal judgeship.

Presiding over the meeting was Muscogee Nation assistant attorney general George Almerigi, outgoing bar association president.

Geoffrey Standingbear of Pawhuska, Stephen Foster of Bristow, and John Kerr of Okmulgee were elected directors of the bar association.

Citizen drafts policy change at OU

NORMAN — The University of Oklahoma has changed its policy for verification of Indian ancestry regarding the eligibility of students for services, scholarships, and other forms of financial assistance available only to American Indians.

The policy, written by Muscogee citizen Brett Williams, an OU law alumnus who serves as acting assistant director of OU Student Support Services. In devising the policy, Williams and committee members — including former interim President J. R. Morris and Rick Hall, interim vice president for student affairs — consulted with tribal leaders and members of OU's American Indian Roundtable. The Roundtable is composed of representatives from the school's American Indian student, faculty, staff, and alumni organizations.

"There has been an ongoing process for many years now to develop a verification policy," said Williams.

"The intent of the policy is to make sure that selected university programs and benefits go to the students who can verify themselves as American Indians."



Left: Federal judge Robert Henry accepts his certificate of membership into the Muscogee Nation Bar Association from tribal district court Patrick Moore. Henry is a member of the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and the former state attorney general.

submitted photo

Right: Muscogee Nation District Court Judge Patrick Moore administers the oath of office to Marcella Giles, the tribe's new attorney general. Giles assumes the position that was vacated by former attorney general Leah Ware.

photo by Jim Wolfe

American Indian Movement expands

NEWPORT, Ken. — Citing rapid growth, the American Indian Movement announces its procedures for starting chapters and support groups.

The national office is in Minneapolis, Minn., and national field director Dennis Banks has an office in Newport. Banks also has a field office in Washington D.C.

To start an AIM chapter, submit a formal written request to Vernon Bellecourt at AIM National Office, 3417 20th Ave South, Minneapolis, MN 55407 or by facsimile transmission at: (612) 721-7826; and to Banks at P.O. Box 315, Newport, KY, 41071, or by facsimile transmission at: (606) 581-9458.

Those interested can receive information on existing area AIM chapters.

Banks said AIM Chapters are vehicles for American Indians while support groups are for Indians and non-Indians that support AIM. Also it is important for those individuals who may be-



lieve that they are an AIM chapter or support group to go through the process of certification. Banks said incorporation is no guarantee that one belongs to a legitimate AIM chapter or support group.

No Festival powwow

OKMULGEE — The annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Powwow scheduled for July 28 through 30 in Okmulgee has been postponed indefinitely. Festival committee chair Ken Factor said the group originally contracted to coordinate the annual event was forced to cancel.

Muscogee Election '95 ☒

Almerigi candidate for second chief

OKMULGEE — George Almerigi announces his candidacy for Muscogee Nation Second Chief. The 61-year-old citizen is of the alligator clan and has a bachelor of science degree in business administration and a juris doctor degree.

Almerigi is a veteran of tribal affairs having served in a variety of roles. His tribal government experience began in June 1984, when he served as tribal attorney until September 1986.

He was then elected to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council as an Okmulgee District Representative. He was re-elected twice — the last time without opposition — and served until he resigned to work for the tribe's department of justice as assistant



attorney general, where he has been employed since September 1992.

In addition to serving in tribal government, Almerigi has served as president of Wilson Indian Community for four years. Prior to entering law school in 1980, Almerigi had 16 years experience ranging from payroll supervisor to general accounting as well as computer programmer-analyst and manager of management information systems.

Prior to receiving his bachelor's degree in 1964, Almerigi was an air craft mechanic for eight years and an electronic tester inspector for five years.

Almerigi is a U.S. Air Force Veteran of the Korean War and was recalled to active duty in the U.S. Navy during Desert Storm. He retired from the U.S. Naval Reserve in January, 1994.

Almerigi said he wants to be second chief because he is the best qualified candidate for the position based on his experience in tribal government and private industry as well as his education and training as a lawyer.

"I believe my age, experience and my concern for the Muscogee people and my desire to help shape a better government for the Nation, make me the best qualified candidate," Almerigi said in a prepared release.

If elected, Almerigi said he will assist the principal chief by:

- * promoting unity and cooperation in the executive branch;
- * carrying out special projects as requested;
- * representing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on behalf of the principal chief;
- * serving as liaison to the National Council and other organizations;
- * providing advice and counsel on operations of the administration and formulating policy position; and
- * listening to problems and complaints from citizens and channel problems to appropriate offices with monthly reports to the principal chief and National Council.

Citizen presents fine arts thesis exhibition

FAYETTEVILLE — Muscogee citizen Bobby C. Martin, University of Arkansas graduate student of art, presented his master of fine arts thesis exhibition — Dwight I.T.S.: The Pursuit of Civilization — at the university fine arts center gallery.

The exhibition chronicled, through paintings, prints, and drawings the lives and times of students at Dwight Mission, an early Indian boarding school. Works are based on photos belonging to his grandmother, a full-blood Muscogee who attended the school in the early 1900s. Recreated to recall pages from old family photo albums, the works, "seek, through shared memories, to provoke thought and promote dialogue on the commonality of peoples and cultures, and the enduring importance of family in any society." Martin, 38, is a printmaker and painter whose works are included in the permanent collections of the Philbrook Museum of Art, Tulsa, and the Southern Plains Indian Museum, Anadarko.



Letters

continued from page 2

I understand that there are other Indians making turtle leggings and that some are sold to the gift shop there in the Creek Nation in Okmulgee.

I understand that the gift shop is selling the leggings saying they were made by me and was pricing them up. My leggings have a special marking on them. I'm sorry but you didn't buy mine from the gift shop. Thanks for your buying my leggings in the past.

Christine Henneha, Okemah

Editor's note: Betsy Factor, manager of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Citizens Gift Shop, said those reports are misleading. The shop purchased one pair of leggings from a relative of Henneha and sold them to another Henneha rela-

tive. Factor says the gift shop has turtle leggings for sale, but that none are made by Henneha.

Citizen likes program

Editor:

Of the many programs the Muscogee (Creek) Nation offers, I believe the community health representative program is the most efficient. The [workers] seem knowledgeable and caring. I am glad to have someone to depend on as are the handicapped without any phone. I hope they keep the CHR program. I appreciate them and need them each and every day.

Buckner "Sock" Buck, Holdenville

Citizen thanks Kellyville community

Editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to

Kellyville Indian Community women that organized and held a food and garage sale to help aid my son, Raymond Lee Washburn — a victim of the Alfred P. Murrah Building bombing. I would also like to thank James Proctor and those that assisted him in holding a benefit stomp dance and all others that contributed to the effort.

Dimmie Washburn, Kellyville

Second speaker commends committee

Editor:

I would like to commend the Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Committee members for executing a well presented 1995 pageant.

Wilbur Gouge, National Council Second Speaker, Eufaula

Grammar 1995-96 Miss Mvskoke Creek Nation

continued from page 1

an important asset.

"The only way that we could communicate with her was by speaking Creek to her. She taught us all to sing Creek hymns."

And it was from that inheritance that she choose material for the pageant's talent category. She sang "Ekvna Heraten," "Hvthvyatken Vlicet," and "Heleluyv" — hymns with special significance to her church, Greenleaf Baptist.

"It's our church anthem and I've always known [those] song[s] and its the first thing that popped into my mind for talent."

Royce anticipates using her title to promote the teaching of the Mvskoke language.

"I just hope that through this I'll help people learn more about the language and Creek culture. There are so many young people that could care less about the old ways; I just want to reestablish that [importance]."

Although an enrolled Muscogee tribal citizen, she has been employed with Seminole Nation Enrollment Office since August 1994. Royce, who is also Seminole, said that Seminole Nation Principal Chief Jerry Haney has been very supportive of her endeavor. "Everyone here thinks it's great," as was evidenced by a reception her co-workers held for her following her coronation.

Royce belongs to the Beaver Clan and New Tulsa Tribal Town. She is a graduate of Mason Public Schools. Royce is the daughter of Roy Grammar, Okemah, and Linda Kay Hicks, Welty, with whom she resides. Her maternal grandparents are John and Louise Burgess and her paternal grandmother is Wessie Grammar.

Education briefs

Muscogee students graduate

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Five Muscogee citizens have graduated recently from Haskell Indian Nations University. Those graduates are: Marian L. Berryhill; Sheldon E. Herrod; Forbes W. Perkins; Rhonda Shell; Vera A. Tyner; Maria Scott Pope; Rena S. Taylor; and Jeffrey L. O'Dell.

Muscogee students earn awards

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Muscogee students were the recipients of several awards at the Haskell Indian Nations University 1995 Awards Presentation.

Receiving academic scholarships were: freshman Tammy Lowe, Haskell Scholastic Excellence; freshman Vanessa Hill, Howard and Nellie Trowbridge Academic Scholarship; sophomore Jeffrey O'Dell, Cecil Dawes Jr. Memorial Scholarship; and sophomore Vera Tyner, Haskell Scholastic Excellence.

Lowe also received one of three dean of students outstanding student awards.

Freshman Annette Powell received one of three executive board student activities awards.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Several tribal officials were present to break ground for the new community services building. The building will house the administrative offices of the Muscogee Nation's social agencies.

Vote

continued from page 1

constitutional amendment.

• "Shall Article [6], Section 2 of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation be amended to read?"

Section 2. The Supreme Court shall be composed of six (6) members appointed by the Principal Chief, subject to majority approval by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, and whose term shall be for six (6) years beginning July 1. No person shall be appointed as a Supreme Court Justice who has a felony conviction in a court of competent jurisdiction.

• Article [6] Section 2 (c):

No person shall be a representative who has not attained the age of eighteen (18), hold full citizenship or has a felony conviction within the past ten (10) years as of date of filing for candidacy, in a court of competent jurisdiction.

The following is a list of precinct locations. All polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Creek District

- Bristow Information Center, 710 S. Main
- Sapulpa Indian Community, 1030 E. Taft

Tukvptce District

- Dustin Indian Community, two blocks north of junction of state highways 9 and 84
- Holdenville Indian Community, 416 E. Poplar St.
- Wetumka Indian Community, 608 N. Creek

McIntosh District

- Checotah Indian Community, 998 Maple
- Eufaula Indian Community Day Care Center, 702 Forrest Ave., Eufaula
- Hanna Indian Community, 2 3/4 miles east of Hanna from highway 56 (Main Street)
- Ryal School, In Henryetta, from 10th and Main streets, go south six miles, turn east on Artussee Road, then three miles to the school

Muscogee District

- Muscogee Indian Community, 111 Virginia Street

Okfuskee District

- Okemah Indian Community, 1100 S. Division
- Weleetka School, 6th & Seneca

Okmulgee District

- Dewar Indian Community, 402 Luella St.
- Okmulgee Indian Community, 2710 N. Miami

Tulsa District

- Glenpool Indian Community, 13839 S. Casper
- Tulsa Indian Community, 6363 E. 31st, Suite 105

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District

- Koweta Indian Community, 30901 E. 141st, Coweta

Results

continued from page 1

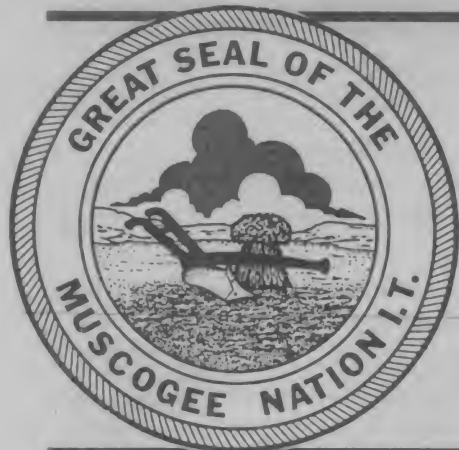
the other contestants in the following categories: essay; interview; talent; traditional dress; impromptu question; and poise and personality.

Kogee Yvonne Morgan, Claremore, received first runner-up as well as Miss Congeniality. Tracie Anne Lowery, Tulsa, received second runner-up.

Other contestants were: Sheree Nicole Bigpond, Coweta; Cimeron Dawn Chastain, Weleetka; Deanna Jane Dick, Tulsa; Jara E. Harrell, Stroud; Taren Michelle Lowe, Holdenville; Shanah-Dea Lynn Mosquito; and Trina Dawn Watashe, Sapulpa.

Former Creek Nation Princess Alice King serves as mistress of ceremonies. Pageant judges were: Elise Berryhill, Norman; Chris Minyard, Henryetta; Tonnette Mouse, Tahlequah; Monetta Trepp, Tulsa; and Jerry Tahsequah, Norman.

Special guests included Miss Indian World Crystal Pewo, Miss Indian Oklahoma Jamie Barse, and Junior Miss Indian Oklahoma Sonya Liles.



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August 1995, 8 Pages

Principal Chief Fife announces bid for re-election

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife announced he will seek reelection in a prepared statement.

As a leader with national standing, Fife says his solid background in tribal service and National Council experience as significant.

He began his tribal career in 1973 as coordinator for tribal education. He later became director of tribal affairs. He ran for principal chief in 1987.

Fife won a special election for Okfuskee district representative in 1988. He was reelected to the National Council in 1989 and served until his election as principal chief in 1991.

"This administration has significantly accomplished an expansion of services in all areas of housing, education, health, and community development," Fife said.

Among his accomplishments, Fife said:

- the tribe has received housing grants in excess of \$20 million for the rehabilitation of mutual help homes and another \$1.8 million for rehabilitating individual homes owned by Muscogee citizens. More than 100 new housing units were allotted;

- the education department assists more than 1,000 Muscogee students with financial assistance for higher education through tribal scholarships and another 10,000 students in public schools as well as individuals participating in the adult education programs for general equivalency diploma services or vocational training. The department also sponsors programs for summer youth groups, Creek communities, and Head Start children;

- the health administration opened a new facility. "This spring we were proud to open the Okmulgee Health Center — a 10,000 square foot facility which

provides dental services, pediatric care, and general medical care to Creeks in Okmulgee and surrounding communities," Fife said. "This is the first clinic



Fife

established for Creeks living in and around the Okmulgee District and it is only one component of the regional network of health care services which have been planned for all citizens living in the eight county service area."

The tribe also operates an elderly nutrition program, a community health service representative program and a new women, infants, and children (WIC) program.

- the tribe completed construction of the center for human development at the tribal capitol complex in Okmulgee recently and was successful in getting funds for a community service center and four local community centers. The completion of these community centers will meet the goal of providing every chartered community in the Muscogee Nation with a facility to house community service programs at the local level.

Fife said his contemporary leadership style has allowed more citizens to participate in the governmental process. He is particularly proud of people participating in the community organizations who practice governance at the local level. Fife said he has a deep respect for traditional leaders who continue cer-

please see FIFE..., page 8



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Royce Grammar was present to see the crowning of new Miss Indian Oklahoma Sharon Bailey, Kiowa, at the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women-sponsored pageant held in Oklahoma City in July.

Voters approve amendments, National Council reduced by 10

OKMULGEE — Muscogee voters approved overwhelmingly three amendments to the tribal constitution July 22 with a light voter turnout.

The results are:

- NCA 95-37, capping the number of representatives at 26 — 1,336 yes, 277 no;

- NCA 95-45, no felony convictions within 10 years of filing for office — 1,378 yes, 231 no; and

- NCA 95-72, no felony convictions for Supreme Court nominees — 1,351 yes, 261, no.

Absentee voters accounted for 2,953 of the 4,834 total ballots cast.

The results were certified by the tribal election board and forwarded to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for final approval.

The election board also certified the number of National Council district representative seats based on the tribal census (38,230 at Aug. 1) and the approval of the Constitutional amendment.

Seven of the eight districts will have

their representation reduced. The exception is Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes, who will maintain their number at two. Okmulgee and Tulsa each lost two representatives.

Districts with the new number of representatives each are:

- Creek, three;
- McIntosh, three;
- Muskogee, two;
- Okfuskee, three;
- Okmulgee, five;
- Tukvptce, three; and
- Tulsa, five.

Absentee ballot request forms are expected to be mailed at the end of August. Other election year dates are:

- Sept. 18 through 20 — candidate filing period;

- Oct. 4 — absentee voter registration closes;

- Oct. 18 — primary election voter registration closes;

- Oct. 28 — primary election; and

- Dec. 2 — general election.

Second Chief Crow cites Head Start as model program

by Shelly Crow, second chief

I was very honored to be a speaker at the Head Start thirty-year celebration for all Indian tribes across the United States. This celebration was held July 25 through 27 in Tulsa.

When you are a leader, you should look at programs that are good models and support those that are working — not just from the budgetary point of view, but program point of view: is the program servicing our people.

However, there is a problem. The federal, state, and maybe tribal governments are going to be cutting these programs. We've got to look where the government's heart is. Is it for its people or is it to help economic development, self-satisfaction, etc.

In reviewing all programs within the Mvskoke (Creek) Nation, we focus in on the Head Start program. As I am asked to speak and serve on advisory boards for other programs within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I hope to find the same class of programs.

In viewing Head Start, it is probably one of the most successful programs for developing human

resources because it includes children, parents, extended families, and communities. Our Head Start children are part of 144 tribal Head Start programs across the U.S. Fourteen percent of America's Head Start population resides in Oklahoma. Fifty-five percent of Head Start employees at the Muscogee Nation are parents who are the backbone of this program — giving of their time to assist in the structure of the program and making sure it operates correctly.

The employees and parents are dedicated because they are community oriented. They give hundreds of volunteer hours to the program for fund raisers to buy caps and gowns for graduations, field trips, etc. Head Start evolves around the philosophy of parent involvement to increase parenting skills and life skills, which Head Start has done as two-thirds of their staff are parents or have been parents of enrolled children.

More Creeks are employed in this department that serves Creek children as well as other tribal children and non-Indians. I never realized what an excellent program it is until I began participating on

the health advisory board.

Parents design the program and have one hundred percent approval of the program. If you review other organizations where people are allowed to have a lot of input into the organization and program, it has been proven that more people will participate and stay involved. There is no better way to run all of our programs than to let the citizens we serve have more input in developing the needs and desires for their own families.

The Head Start program purpose is a holistic approach to developing a child and its family. With competent integration we have targeted the well-being of the child physically, mentally, socially, and developmentally. All of these components certainly create self-esteem within the child and parent.

Head Start is a community program. We must have input from those we serve. We must start modeling all of our programs based on the needs of the people instead of molding the people to provide services without the people's voice. Too often, we start the other way.

Letters to the editor

Citizen cites treaty obligations

Editor:

In 1821 chiefs, head men, and warriors of the Creek Nation, along with government representatives, agreed to the provisions in "The Treaty of Baxter Springs."

This agreement ceded five million acres of Indian land in Georgia for the sum of \$450,000. A stipulation of the treaty set forth payments to the nation over a period of 14 years. The total amount paid over this period was \$200,000. The remainder was reserved to pay depredation claims brought forth by the citizens of Georgia. Commissioners from Georgia were present at these negotiations and presented a bill for the entire \$450,000.

President Monroe had the claims audited and there were no allowances for the counter claims. However, claims based on three fraudulent treaties were admitted. The hearings were held in the interior of Georgia whereas the Creeks had no opportunity to be present. After all claims had been allowed there was a considerable balance of the \$250,000 left over. Furthermore, there was nothing said about returning the leftover amount to the Creeks and the excess remained in the United States treasury.

The information that I have relayed to the people is relevant and not just a history lesson. This information is found.

The documentation is factual and it seems that government is lagging behind in its obligations to the people of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Rick Wilde, Tulsa

Citizen thanks volunteers

Editor:

I am writing this thank you letter for the following people: the grass cutters for maintaining the senior citizens lawn; and the meals on wheels program delivering meals to shut-ins and elders. The meals come in cold or hot weather. The young men mowing the

grass are there being kind, caring, and helpful.

I want people to know these services are appreciated. Many thanks to the Muscogee Nation and to the ones that do the work every day.

Dortha Reed, McIntosh District

Citizen disagrees with compact

Editor:

I was shocked recently to learn that our great Nation has backed down to the state of Oklahoma on the issue of charging state cigarette taxes at our tribal tobacco stores. My personal feeling on this is that charging this tax is a betrayal of our people by the chief and other leaders of our nation. I would like to know where the candidates for tribal office stand on this issue. I personally will not vote for any who aren't willing to fight to the death against this policy.

Ed Burgess, Porum

Citizen thanks staff

Editor:

I want to thank Kim Hicks and her staff on behalf of my sister, Patricia Jean Anderson and me. My sister is legally blind and she recently lost a lens from her glasses. After some delay by the Okemah vision clinic, Pat's prescription was obtained.

Pat's problem was presented to Elizabeth Shipley first. She explained the procedures to follow to resolve Pat's problem. An application was completed and, in a most expeditious manner, a voucher was issued. Pat was then able to receive new glasses within a minimal amount of time.

The new glasses have larger lenses which has increased Pat's peripheral vision and her mobility is greatly enhanced.

Thanks again to the community health representatives' staff in resolving Pat's problem.

Jorene Coker, Preston

Citizen disgusted with pretension

Editor:

I do have a certificate degree of Indian blood and a roll number on my citizenship card. By all means I think I have the right to paint any wildlife creature that I want in any way or form. I do choose to paint [wildlife] in the [context] I feel it possesses.

Recently a lady purchased one of my paintings of a blue jay. As a full-blood citizen, I know of the sto-

please see **LETTERS...**, page 8

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

James Wolfe, managing editor

Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff writer

How they voted

OKMULGEE — Results from the July 29 Muscogee (Creek) National Council regular session at the tribal capitol complex.

Absent were: Wilbur Gouge, McIntosh Dist.; Clyde Johnson, Okfuskee Dist.; Thomas McIntosh, McIntosh Dist. (arrived on floor at 10:45 a.m.); Edwin Moore, Tulsa Dist.; and Earl Wheeler, Creek Dist. Speaker Thomas Yahola conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Number, Title, Vote

• NCR 95-19, A resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council creating and establishing the position of financial officer of the National Council. Pass, 28-2.

Voting yes (representative and district): Perry Beaver, Tulsa; Richard Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Larry Bible, Tulsa; Steve Bruner, Tulsa; Helen Chupco, Muskogee; Irene Cleghorn, Tulsa; Darrell Coachman, Tukvptce; Charlie Coker, Muskogee; A.D. Ellis, Okmulgee; Barbara Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Anderson Hale, Okmulgee; Duke Harjo, Creek; Jim Harjo, Okmulgee; Leah Jack, Creek; Mae Jackson, Okfuskee; Jesse Kelley, Tulsa; Earl King, Tulsa; Dave Lewis, Okmulgee; Charlie Litsey, Okmulgee; Dwayne Lowe, Tukvptce; Peggy Lyda, Okmulgee; Sandy McIntosh, McIntosh; David Nichols, Okmulgee; Frances Pease, Muskogee; Tom Pickering, McIntosh; Wynema Roberts, Okfuskee; Yahola Townsend, McIntosh; Phyllis Warrington, Creek.

Voting no: Tim Fife, Tukvptce; and Bruce Smith, Okfuskee.

• NCR 95-21, A Council resolution confirming the renomination of Susanna Willits (of Tulsa) to the tribal election board. Pass, 24-6.

Voting yes: Beaver, Tulsa; Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Bible, Tulsa; Bruner, Tulsa; Chupco, Muskogee; Coachman, Tukvptce; Fife, Tukvptce; Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; D. Harjo, Creek; J. Harjo, Okmulgee; Jack, Creek; Jackson, Okfuskee; Kelley, Tulsa; King, Tulsa; Lewis, Okmulgee; Lowe, Tukvptce; Lyda, Okmulgee; S. McIntosh, McIntosh; Pease, Muskogee; Pickering, McIntosh; Roberts, Okfuskee; Smith, Okfuskee; Townsend, McIntosh; Warrington, Creek.

Voting no: Cleghorn, Tulsa; Coker, Muskogee; Ellis, Okmulgee; Hale, Okmulgee; Litsey, Okmulgee; and Nichols, Okmulgee.

• NCR 95-22, A Council resolution confirming the nomination of Susan Harjo to the gaming operations authority board. Pass, 26-4.

Voting yes: Beaver, Tulsa; Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Bible, Tulsa; Bruner, Tulsa; Chupco, Muskogee; Cleghorn, Tulsa; Coachman, Tukvptce; Ellis, Okmulgee; Fife, Tukvptce; Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Hale, Okmulgee; D. Harjo, Creek; J. Harjo, Okmulgee; Jack, Creek; Jackson, Okfuskee; Kelley, Tulsa; Lewis, Okmulgee; Litsey, Okmulgee; Lowe, Tukvptce; Lyda, Okmulgee; S. McIntosh, McIntosh; Nichols, Okmulgee; Pease, Muskogee; Pickering, McIntosh; Smith, Okfuskee; and Townsend, McIntosh.

Voting no: Coker, Muskogee; King, Tulsa; Roberts, Okfuskee; and Warrington, Creek.

• NCR 95-23, A resolution of the Council confirming the nomination of Raymond Pruitt to serve on the gaming operations authority board. Pass, 25-6.

Voting yes: Beaver, Tulsa; Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Bible, Tulsa; Chupco, Muskogee; Cleghorn, Tulsa; Coachman, Tukvptce; Coker, Muskogee; Ellis, Okmulgee; Fife, Tukvptce; Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Hale, Okmulgee; D. Harjo, Creek; Jack, Creek; Kelley, Tulsa; King, Tulsa; Lewis, Okmulgee; Lowe, Tukvptce; Lyda, Okmulgee; S. McIntosh, McIntosh; T. McIntosh, McIntosh; Pease, Muskogee; Pickering, McIntosh; Smith, Okfuskee; Townsend, McIntosh; Warrington, Creek.

Voting no: Bruner, Tulsa; J. Harjo, Okmulgee;

Yahola announces bid for principal chief

WETUMKA — Muscogee National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola announced his intent to run for principal chief July 22.

"My candidacy is based on my concern for the future of our Muscogee Nation," Yahola said in a prepared release. "We are entering the 21st century and it is apparent if we do not unite as a Nation, we have no hope or expectation of entering into a new century with enthusiasm.

"Our enthusiasm should be based on trust and rapport. In completing my second term as representative, I have established positive rapport with the Council, the executive, and judicial branches."

Yahola said he would continue this established rapport and will work with the National Council in future endeavors. He contends these endeavors must produce jobs, education, health care, acquisition of lands for economic development, and other revenue resources for the nation as the U.S. government resources are diminishing.

"These endeavors can be achieved by promoting and protecting our sovereignty."

Yahola said he will rely on his business experience gained through his 30 years of employment with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District. He was named employee of the year for the district in 1994.

"I have also demonstrated positive leadership qualities as chairman of the [tribal] citizenship board and serving as speaker of the National Council," Yahola said.

"My record as a representative will show that I supported and introduced legislation to the benefit of this Nation and its citizens."

Yahola served his first term as a Council representative from 1989 to 1991. He lost a bid for second chief in 1991 when an election violation resulted in a tribal court decision that disallowed absentee votes. He was elected to a second term as Tukvptce District representative in 1993.

"With my valuable business experience and leadership qualities, ingrained with traditional values of compassion, integrity, and most important, the knowledge and help of our Creator, and with support from the people, I can lead this nation into the 21st century with regained pride."



Yahola

Jackson, Okfuskee; Litsey, Okmulgee; Nichols, Okmulgee; and Roberts, Okfuskee.

• NCR 95-26, A resolution of the Council confirming Lena Marshall to the health systems board. Pass, 31-0 (unanimous).

• NCA 95-68, A bill authorizing funds for honorariums to participating ceremonial grounds at the 1995 Council Oak ceremony. Pass 29-2

Voting yes: Beaver, Tulsa; Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Bible, Tulsa; Bruner, Tulsa; Chupco, Muskogee; Cleghorn, Tulsa; Coachman, Tukvptce; Coker, Muskogee; Ellis, Okmulgee; Fife, Tukvptce; Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Hale, Okmulgee; D. Harjo, Creek; J. Harjo, Okmulgee; Jack, Creek; Kelley, Tulsa; King, Tulsa; Lewis, Okmulgee; Lowe, Tukvptce; Lyda, Okmulgee; S. McIntosh, McIntosh; T. McIntosh, McIntosh; Nichols, Okmulgee; Pease, Muskogee; Pickering, McIntosh; Roberts, Okfuskee; Smith, Okfuskee; Townsend, McIntosh; and Warrington, Creek.

Voting no: Jackson, Okfuskee; Litsey, Okmulgee.

• NCA 95-83, A bill of the Muscogee Nation appropriating the interest from the Eufaula dormitory BIA contract to purchase an air conditioning unit. Pass, 31-0 (unanimous).

• NCA 95-84, A bill of the Muscogee Nation amending NCA 90-13 — the community development block grant program. Pass 29-2.

Voting yes: Beaver, Tulsa; Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Bible, Tulsa; Bruner, Tulsa; Chupco, Muskogee; Coachman, Tukvptce; Coker, Muskogee; Ellis, Okmulgee; Fife, Tukvptce; Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Hale, Okmulgee; D. Harjo, Creek; J. Harjo, Okmulgee; Jack, Creek; Kelley, Tulsa; King, Tulsa; Lewis, Okmulgee; Litsey, Okmulgee; Lowe, Tukvptce; Lyda, Okmulgee; S. McIntosh, McIntosh; T. McIntosh, McIntosh; Nichols, Okmulgee; Pease, Muskogee; Pickering, McIntosh; Roberts, Okfuskee; Smith, Okfuskee; Townsend, McIntosh; and Warrington, Creek.

Voting no: Cleghorn, Tulsa; and Jackson, Okfuskee.

• NCA 95-86, A bill of the Muscogee Nation authorizing a budget modification for children and family services. Pass, 31-0 (unanimous).

• NCA 95-88, A bill of the Muscogee Nation rescinding NCR 93-25 (gaming commissioner confirmation) and calling for immediate termination. Fail,

14-15.

Voting no: Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Chupco, Muskogee; Coachman, Tukvptce; Fife, Tukvptce; Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; D. Harjo, Creek; J. Harjo, Okmulgee; Lewis, Okmulgee; Lowe, Tukvptce; S. McIntosh, McIntosh; T. McIntosh, McIntosh; Pease, Muskogee; Pickering, McIntosh; Smith, Okfuskee; Townsend, McIntosh.

Voting yes: Beaver, Tulsa; Bruner, Tulsa; Cleghorn, Tulsa; Coker, Muskogee; Ellis, Okmulgee; Hale, Okmulgee; Jack, Creek; Jackson, Okfuskee; Kelley, Tulsa; Litsey, Okmulgee; Lyda, Okmulgee.

King and Bible, both of Tulsa, did not vote.

• NCA 95-89, A bill establishing the Muscogee Nation Fuel Tax Act of 1995. Return to committee, 21-9.

Voting to return: Beaver, Tulsa; Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Bible, Tulsa; Chupco, Muskogee; Cleghorn, Tulsa; Coachman, Tukvptce; Coker, Muskogee; Ellis, Okmulgee; Fife, Tukvptce; Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Hale, Okmulgee; D. Harjo, Creek; Jack, Creek; Kelley, Tulsa; King, Tulsa; Lewis, Okmulgee; Lowe, Tukvptce; Lyda, Okmulgee; S. McIntosh, McIntosh; Pease, Muskogee; and Warrington, Creek.

Voting no: Bruner, Tulsa; J. Harjo, Okmulgee; Litsey, Okmulgee; T. McIntosh, McIntosh; Nichols, Okmulgee; Pickering, McIntosh; Roberts, Okfuskee; Smith, Okfuskee; Townsend, McIntosh.

• NCA 95-90, A bill of the Muscogee Nation appropriating \$297,390 for the extension of the Tulsa bingo hall for a non-smoking section. Pass, 28-1-1.

Voting yes: Beaver, Tulsa; Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; Bible, Tulsa; Bruner, Tulsa; Chupco, Muskogee; Cleghorn, Tulsa; Coachman, Tukvptce; Coker, Muskogee; Ellis, Okmulgee; Fife, Tukvptce; Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; D. Harjo, Creek; J. Harjo, Creek; Kelley, Tulsa; King, Tulsa; Lewis, Okmulgee; Lowe, Tukvptce; Lyda, Okmulgee; S. McIntosh, McIntosh; T. McIntosh, McIntosh; Nichols, Okmulgee; Pease, Muskogee; Pickering, McIntosh; Smith, Okfuskee; Townsend, McIntosh; and Warrington, Creek.

Voting no: Litsey, Okmulgee.

Abstain: Roberts, Okfuskee.

• Approving the absentee ballot counters. Pass, 31-0 (unanimous).



photo by Steven Hall

Muscogee Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife (center) poses with representatives from other members of the Five Tribes Inter-Tribal Council at the Creek Council House Museum. From left: John Ketcher, former Cherokee Nation Deputy Chief; Greg Pyle, Choctaw Nation Second Chief; Fife; Bill Anoatubby, Chickasaw Nation Governor; and Jerry Nation, Seminole Nation Chief.



photo by Steven Hall

Tribal royalty actively participated in the Five Tribes Inter-Tribal Council quarterly meeting hosted by the Muscogee Nation in July. From left: Rachel Stick, Chickasaw Princess; Jessica Houston, Miss Cherokee, Stacy Hawkins, Miss Seminole Nation; and Royce Grammar, Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation.

Muscogee Election '95 ☒

Fields announces second chief candidacy

WELEETKA — K.T. "Hutke" Fields, Alabama-Koasatie, announces his candidacy for second chief.

Fields is 43 years old and has a master's degree in social work administration and planning from The University of Oklahoma. He belongs to the Bird Clan and Arbeka Ceremonial Ground.

Fields' entire professional career entails service to youth and families. He has provided training and technical assistance to Indian tribes nation-wide in the area of social services over the last nine years. He has a total of 25 years experience developing, implementing, and administering social service programs.

He presently offers training to 228 tribal elderly nutrition programs, working for Three Feathers Associates — a non-profit Indian organization that has a cooperative agreement with the U.S. DHHS — Administration on Aging — Office for American Indian Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Programs. Additionally, Fields serves the interests of Native Americans on state and national boards and task forces. He is the present chair of the Oklahoma Interagency Child Abuse Prevention Task Force and serves on the Advisory Board of the National Resource Center on Child Sexual Abuse.

Fields drafted the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Elder and Adult Protection Code and the Comprehensive

Juvenile and Family Code while managing the Muscogee Nation Children and Family services administration, he said. Fields contends he carries an extensive working knowledge of: elderly issues; program development; supervision, and administration; training and technical assistance; community development; Indian child welfare; case investigation; documentation and management; and culture. He is a grant writer and has been successful in implementing many programs and services, according to a press release.

Fields said that he will make no campaign promises. He wishes to speak with, work with, and serve the citizens of the Muscogee Nation in all the areas of "well known concern." "Recognizing that the tribe[s] cannot depend on federal funding and bingo revenue to serve massive needs, Mr. Fields states his concern for tribal community and business development on our own terms," states his release. Fields contends he wants to discuss ideas and strategies.

In his pursuit of the office of the second chief, Fields offers to meet with anyone who wishes to voice concern or who has "do-able" ideas for the next administration. He states that the best qualified candidate is the one who will keep working directly with the people over the entire tenure of office. He may be contacted at: P.O. Box 6, Weleetka, OK 74880.



photo by Jim Wolfe

Principal Chief Bill Fife (seated at right) signs a contract for community centers in Sapulpa, Tulsa, Twin Hills, and Weleetka with Donna Edmondson (seated) of Edmondson and Associates. Standing from left are: Geneva Gooden, tribal purchasing agent; Rick LaPointe, Edmondson and Assoc.; Stan McGilbray and Ramona Mason, Tulsa Creek Indian Community.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Muscogee Nation Second Chief Shelly Crow presents some spending money to Muscogee citizen Andrea Frye of Weleetka. Frye was one of several Indian athletes from the tribe that participated in the North American Indigenous Games held in Minneapolis, Minn. in July.

In brief

Church sets open house, singing

HOLDENVILLE — Heritage Full Gospel Tabernacle is having an open house from 3 to 5 p.m. with a gospel singing following at 7 p.m., Aug. 26 at the church. The church pastor is Ben McIntosh. Heritage Full Gospel Church is at 619 W. Poplar. For more information, contact McIntosh at (405) 354-4577.

Ground schedules tournaments, forum

HANNA — Hillabee Ceremonial Ground has scheduled a coed volleyball tournament, horseshoe tournament, and tribal candidates' forum on Sept. 9.

The volleyball tournament will begin at 8 a.m. It requires an eight-person roster. The entry fee for the volleyball tournament is \$40.

Prizes are: first place, team trophy, and t-shirts; second place, team trophy and t-shirts; third place, team plaque. The horseshoe tournament entry fee is \$5. Prizes are: first, 50-50; and second, a trophy. The candidate forum is for all individuals running for Muscogee tribal office; it will be held from noon to 1 p.m. Free chili will be served during that hour.

The activities will be held at the home of Nancy Harjo. Her home is located one and one-half miles south of state highway 9 on state highway 52 on the east side of the road.

For more information, call Kizzie Harjo at (918) 657-2510 or Janetta Harjo at (918) 657-2217.

Community news

Eufaula Indian Community hosts ninth annual powwow during Labor Day weekend

EUFULA — Eufaula Indian Community is hosting its Ninth Annual Labor Day Powwow Sept. 1 through 3 at the East Side Ball Park at the Cove on Lake Eufaula.

Dancing begins at 8 p.m. with the grand entry procession.

Head staff includes:

- Ernest Toppah, Kiowa, head singer;
- Kevin Conneywerdy, Kiowa-Commanche, head man dancer;
- Jonita Anquoe Sellers, Kiowa, head lady dancer;
- Tahnee Antone, Muscogee-Kiowa-Seminole, Eufaula Indian Community Powwow Princess;
- Dean Whitebreast, Mesquakie, and Perry Aunko, Kiowa, masters of ceremonies;
- Gary Cover, Pawnee, and Bill Takes Horse, Crow, arena directors; and
- Richard Two Hatchet, Kiowa, head gourd dancer.

Contestants will be competing for more than \$10,000 in prizes. There will be a blanket dance and honor song in memory of Donald Beartrack Jr. He is a former Muscogee Nation Eufaula Dormitory student murdered in March 1994. Proceeds will go to his family.

Other events during the weekend are:

- coed softball tournament, 9 a.m., Sept. 2. Deadline for entry is Aug. 25. Contact Jerry Francis at (918) 689-9579; and
- domino tournament, 9:30 a.m., Sept. 2. Registration will be at Eufaula Indian Community Bingo Hall. The tournament is being held in honor of Susie Cosar Scott. Contact Taylor Fields at (918) 689-9579 on weekends.

This year's program is dedicated to Mrs. B.B. Scott who died in October 1994. Her son Sandy, was the impetus for this annual event after the death of his close friend and relative Jerome Tiger. She cooked the first meal on the ground and was a source of encouragement said Jon Tiger, coordinator.

The 1995 powwow is held in tribute to Ira Kaulay Jr. He served as a powwow chair in the 1970s and 1980s. "His hard work and knowledge of the sacred circle is carried on," Tiger said.

For more information, contact Eufaula Indian Community at: (918) 689-5066; or write P.O. Box 865, Eufaula, OK 74432.

Bristow Indian community announces its September 9, city park pow wow staff

BRISTOW — Bristow Indian Community is hosting its third powwow Sept. 9 at the city park softball field. Gourd dancing begins at 2 p.m. Dinner is from 4:30 to 5:30 with gourd dancing resuming after. Grand entry is at 6:30 p.m. The master of ceremonies is Archie Mason of Tulsa.

Other powwow staff include:

- Polly Davis, powwow princess;
- Tia Hayes, junior princess;

- Yellow Spotted Horse, host drum;
- Osage Gourd Clan, host gourd clan;
- NAIA Seminole-Coweta, color guard;
- Frances Grant, head man dancer;
- Toni Guterrez, head lady dancer;
- Walter Larney, arena director; and
- Alex Guterrez, head boy dancer.

Senior and junior contests have four divisions each. All tinytots and drums are welcome. Admission is free. Arts and crafts vendors will be charged a \$20 fee. For more information, contact: Anita White at (918) 367-5621; (918) 367-6540; or Judy Riley at: (918) 307-2249.

Society

Polecat chief to celebrate 80th birthday

DUCK CREEK — A Sept. 2 birthday party for Jim Brown, Polecat Ceremonial Ground Chief and Sand Creek speaker, will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The party will be held at Duck Creek Community Center, 241st and U.S. Highway 75.

All friends and relatives are invited to his 80th birthday celebration.

Birthday cookout held for Phoebe Jones

SAND CREEK — Charles Lee Jones held a June cookout for the 75th birthday of his mother — Phoebe Bucktrot Jones.

The cookout was held at her homeplace, near Sand Creek Ceremonial Ground, with 33 people attending.

Berryhill celebrates with Lion King party

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Amanda Blanche Berryhill celebrated her fourth birthday on July 26 at McDonalds with "The Lion King" birthday theme.

Berryhill, full-blood Mvskoke-Navajo, belongs to the Red Brick House Clan. She is the daughter of the Racoon Clan and Tukvpvtce Tribal Town. Her parents are Mark Berryhill and Verdie Nelson, both of Lawrence. She is the granddaughter of Jean Berryhill, Lawrence, and Thomas Berryhill Jr., Duck Creek, and John and the late Bah Nelson, Chi-Chil-Tah, N.M. She is the great-granddaughter of Elizabeth Porter, Coweta, and Thomas and the late Blanche Berryhill, Wilson Community. She has one sister, Kendra, age seven.



Berryhill

Former princess places in national essay

ENID — Janita Merritt Dosh, Enid, placed third in a national essay contest sponsored by Airwalk Footwear.

Airwalk Footwear's objective through its "Trust Your Judgement" essay contest was to seek out young people who, through their actions, feel they have proved that no dream was too extreme and weren't swayed by peer pressure or circumstances to seek opportunity and accomplishment.

Dosh described in her essay the most challenging and rewarding experience of her life. At age 17 she was crowned the 1989-90 Creek Nation princess.

Judging was based on relevance to contest theme, originality creativity, content and clarity of expression, and overall impact of the deed described.

She is the daughter of Ed and Janice Screechowl, Sapulpa.



Dosh

Marshall Family

WETUMKA — The family of the late Lewis and Mandy Marshall are invited to attend the Marshall family reunion beginning at 11 a.m., Sept. 2.

It will be held at Wetumka Community Center. It is requested that those attending bring a covered dish.

Wesley Family

LAMAR — The descendents of the late John and Polly Wesley Scott will be holding a family reunion beginning at 10 a.m., Sept. 2.

Gospel singing will be held in the afternoon. Vincent Wesley will be coordinating, as well as performing at the singing. The reunion will be held at Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church.

Robison Family

THLOPTHLOCCO — The descendents of Col. William Robison held their annual family reunion at Thlopthlocco Tribal Town headquarters.

Seventy-five family members from Oklahoma, New Mexico, California, and Kansas, along with friends and visitors attended.

Gifts were presented in the following categories: oldest surviving descendent, Susie Robison Foster, 98, Okemah; most family members present, Amos Robison family; youngest children present, Lane Estes, Tulsa; and Tracy Lynn McGirt, Wetumka. Estes is the great-grandson of Rebecca Lindsey, Wewoka. McGirt is the daughter of Shawn McGirt, Glenpool. She is the granddaughter of Mary McGirt, Glenpool and Charlie McGirt, Poteau. Her great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother are Nora Cheek and Susie Robison Foster, both of Okemah.

The 1996 reunion date has been set for July 1.

Simms Family

OKMULGEE — The family of the late Maxey and Sawena Simms held their first family reunion on July 4 at Okmulgee Lake with 50 people attending.

Together the Simms had 10 children, 16 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren; and around 35 great-great-grandchildren.

Institute to hold reunion

DURANT — A reunion of alumni and staff of the former Oklahoma Presbyterian College has been set for Oct. 20 through 21.

For more information, contact Martha Wade Martinez at: 6690 Miller St., Arvada, CO 80004; or call (303) 422-7175.

Muscogee collegians

Sherry Butler

ROCKVILLE, M.D. — Sherry Davis Butler recently attended a graduate student conference held by the Indian Health Service.

Butler recently graduated from Bartlesville Wesleyan College with an associate's degree in nursing. Butler worked as an extern at Claremore Indian Hospital in 1993 and 1994 and plans on employment at the IHS facility.

She is the daughter of Charles and Flora Davis of Sapulpa. Her grandparents are Alice and the late Robert Butler, Holdenville, and the late Wilson Davis, Shawnee.



Butler

Kristin Fleming

STILLWATER — Kristin Nicole Fleming graduated from Oklahoma State University on May 6 with a bachelor of science degree in animal science.

She will be a sophomore in OSU's College of Veterinary Medicine in the fall.

She is the daughter of Karla and Jerry Fleming and granddaughter of the late Mannie Wiley, all of Sapulpa.

Kimberly Waters

STILLWATER — Kimberly Coser Waters graduated from Oklahoma State University with a bachelor of science degree in management information systems.

While at OSU, she was the recipient of the following scholarships: Lew Wentz; Conlon Indian; minority programs and services; academic achievers; Conoco Corporation; Muscogee Nation tribal judgement fund; and incentive grant.

She was also the recipient of an internship with the Conoco Corporation of Ponca City, oil accounting unit. She served a Congressional internship with Congress member Bill Brewster. In addition, Waters was a member of the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education Honor Society and an academic and leadership honoree with the multicultural development and assessment center. She served as the princess, treasurer, and vice-president of the Native American Student Association. She was a member of the Mu Sigma Omicron organization and served on the student advisory board of student services.

Waters is full-blood Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw and is the daughter of the Fox Clan and Cussetah Tribal Town. She is the daughter

of Pete and Jo Anna Coser of Stillwater. She is the granddaughter of the late George and Stella Coser of Okmulgee and the late Sampson and Josie Wade of Antlers. She is married to Joe Don Waters and has sixth-month-old daughter, Savannah. She plans to pursue a career in management information systems.

Joel Wolfe

FT. COBB — Tribal citizen Joel L. Wolfe graduated from the Caddo-Kiowa Vocational Technical Center School of Practical Nursing with many awards of distinction.

Wolfe offered the inspirational address at the June 30 graduation.

His awards and accomplishments include: State Health Occupations Nontraditional Student; student peer award — outstanding student; third place regionals, problem solving team; and student of the month, September.

He was a member of the Health Occupations Student Association, inspirational officer, and National Vo-tech Honor Society.

He and his wife, Marcia, have three children, Karissa, Jessica, and Bertie, and reside in Anadarko. Wolfe, a 1980 graduate of Sapulpa High School, is the son of Jim and Noma Wolfe, Sapulpa, and the grandson of the late Rev. Birdie and Myrtle James Wolfe, Okmulgee.



Wolfe

Jim B. Harjo

TULSA — Jim B. Harjo is the recipient of a \$1,500 research scholarship by the Oklahoma Partners for Biological Sciences for the summer semester.

Harjo is researching lipid metabolism in farm animals under Dr. Jary Mayes of the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He was an OPBS scholarship recipient in the spring of 1995 while attending Tulsa Junior College.

Oklahoma Partners for Biological Sciences is funded by a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Dr. James Blair, program director and OSU Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Chair, said OPBS provides enhanced research opportunities for students who plan to transfer into biological sciences at OSU's Stillwater campus from two-year colleges in Oklahoma.

Harjo is the son of Duke and Ellen Harjo of Sapulpa and a 1984 graduate of Sapulpa High School.

He is currently a senior at The University of Tulsa, where he is majoring in biology. He plans

to begin medical school following graduation. Harjo, an honor roll student, is a recipient of the Muscogee Nation Incentive Grant.

Tara Taylor

TAMPA, Fla. — Tara Taylor has been named one of 40 recipients of an Institute of Certified Public Accountants' scholarship.

She received an all-expense paid trip to Tampa at which time she was awarded the \$1,500 scholarship. Taylor will be a senior Stephen F. Austin University, Nacogdoches, Texas, in the fall.

She is the daughter of Janette and Wade Bucktrot, Tulsa and Tom Taylor, Grapevine, Texas. She is the granddaughter of Robert Gray, Tulsa and great-granddaughter of the late Nette and Bertha Gray.



Taylor

Girl caps prep career at all-star classic

KONAWA — Konawa High School's Titania Lewis capped her high school athletic career with a 12-point performance in the 22nd Annual Ada Evening News All-star Classic in May.

She assisted her teammates on the West squad win the game that involved players from Ada-area schools.

Lewis has played for the KHS Lady Tigers throughout her high school years and has attended the state tournament all four seasons. Her teams posted three straight Class 2A state runner-up finishes along with a quarter-final appearance her senior year.

Lewis has been stalwart on the track team also. As a senior, she qualified for the state track meet in the 100 meter dash, high jump, and the 1600 meter relay. Throughout her high school years she has qualified for state competition in nine separate events.

"Ty is one of those girls you love to have on the team and I'll miss her. She's always done everything I asked of her. She's developed into a fine young lady and I believe she has a bright future ahead of her," Don Gallagher, her track coach, said.

Lewis was also Konawa homecoming queen in 1995.

She plans to attend college in Kansas. She is the daughter of Shirley Alexander and the granddaughter of Leo and Salina Alexander.



Lewis

Muscogee Nation obituaries

GLEN ALEXANDER

DALLAS — Glen "Fushutke" O. Alexander of Gordonville died June 13 in Denton, Texas.

He was born Dec. 27, 1919 in Bixby.

Survivors include: his wife of 53 years, Louise Myers Alexander; daughter, Nancy Graff; grandson, Terry McGee; granddaughter, Ronda Green; great-granddaughter, Ashley Green; brother, Geronimo Alexander; sister, Dolly McHenry; several nieces; and nephews.

Attending the funeral were: Alexander; Dolly McHenry; and Ronald and Chuck McHenry.

CLINT HARJOCHEE

WELEETKA — Funeral services for Clint Dean Harjochee were held on June 27 at Alabama Baptist Church with Revs. George Doyle and John Lowe officiating.

Harjochee died June 24 at his home in Wetumka after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Wake services were held at the church on June 26. Rev. Eastman Whitlow was in charge of all services. Marvin Lowe and Steve Randall served as head deacons.



Harjochee

His favorite Creek hymns — Cesvs Kwapkvte, Vm Vnicvs, and Ekvny Pomellvten were sung by Rev. Robert Washington, Marvin Lowe, and J.D. Robert, respectively.

He was born March 17, 1944 to Adam and Jennie White Harjochee in Okfuskee County. He was baptized at High Springs Baptist Church at an early age. On May 2, 1981 he and Tilda Ann Scott were married at Alabama Baptist Church by Rev. Roley Haynes. He joined Alabama Baptist Church in May 1988. On Jan. 14, 1990, he was ordained as a deacon. Clint was also a veteran of the U.S. Army.

He is survived by: his wife of the home; five sons, Clint D. Harjochee Jr., Okemah, Christopher Harjochee, Oklahoma City, Anthony Harjochee, Hollywood, Fla., Charles Broncho and Harbor Harjochee of the home; two daughters, Estherlene Sanchez, Oklahoma City, and Abbie Mae Harjochee of the home; two brothers, Joe Harjochee, Okemah, and Frank Harjochee, Oklahoma City. Two sisters, Lorene Carmona, Longmont, Colo., and Julia Spain, Shawnee; nine grandchildren, Stacy Nicole Harjochee, Kendra Harjochee, Carl Harjochee, Tyler Harjochee, Breanna Harjochee, Chasity Harjochee, Felicia Sanchez, Manuel Sanchez, and Jonothan Phillips.

The following deacons served as pallbearers: Marvin Lowe; Steve Randall; Jeff Factor; Jerry Sumpka; Anderson Hale; and Sidney Lee.

ALICE LOGAN

FT. GIBSON — Funeral services for Alice A. Logan were held July 11 at Ft. Gibson National

Cemetery with Father Max Berry officiating. She died July 8 in Muskogee.

Logan was born July 9, 1911 near Haskell to Headright and Martha Ellen Reagan Moore. She was a registered nurse most of her life, serving in that capacity during World War II in the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant. She returned to the Haskell area where she had worked and lived for most of her life.

She is preceded in death by: her parents; and husband, Amos D. Logan.

She is survived by: one son, George Logan, Kinross, Mich.; one daughter, Violet Ellen Carrick, Brimley, Mich.; one sister, Winnie Hornett, Tahlequah; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and several nieces; and nephews; and other relatives.

ALEX NORMAN

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Alex Norman were held July 8 at Middle Creek # 2 Baptist Church with Revs. George Harjochee and Frank Moppin officiating.

He died July 3. He was born July 23, 1970 in Claremore. He was reared in Holdenville and graduated in 1988. He attended Haskell Junior College (Haskell Indian Nations University) in Lawrence, Kan. for two years. He was employed with Wrangler in Seminole.

He was preceded in death by his father, Lee Norman in 1980.

Survivors include: his mother, Viola Norman of the home; two sisters and one brother-in-law, Jo Beth and Mike Mooney, and Charlene Norman, all of Holdenville; two nieces, Crystal Mooney and Lee Ann Norman, both of Holdenville; nephews, Marcy and Jeff Mooney, both of Holdenville; grandmother, Irene Bailey, Wewoka. He is also survived by: Pete Johnson, Lamar; JoAnn Underwood, Okemah; and Tracy Hill, Cromwell; and many aunts; uncles; other relatives; and friends.

Pallbearers were: Kevin Farber Jr.; Billy Wood; Buddy Wood; Daniel Johnson; Wallace Johnson; Jim Short; Billy Williams; and Bill Neconish.

Honorary pallbearers were: Mark Miller; Beau Miller; John Williams; Jace Williams; Kenny Chambers; Brian Chambers; Greg Bailey; George Bailey; and Bub Bailey.

Interment was in Holdenville Cemetery.

CURTIS PARNOSKY

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — Curtis Gene Parnosky died July 9.

He was born Aug. 31, 1951 in Buckeye, Ariz. to Willie and Nancy Sue Fields Parnosky.

He is survived by: two sons, Christopher and Curtis Parnosky, Monett, Mo.; daughter-in-law, Annette Parnosky; two grandsons, Joshua and Cody; stepparents, Sam Strayhorn and Marilyn Parnosky; four sisters, Betty Hampton, Stidham, Billy Poole, Tahlequah, Karlata Jackson, Tulsa, and Sandy Parish, Muskogee; two brothers, Jimmy Parnosky, Aurora, Mo. and Parnosky, Eufaula; brothers-in-law, Scott Hampton, Jimmy Jackson,

and Larry Parish; sisters-in-law, Carolyn Parnosky and Carol Parnosky; 25 nieces and nephews; and nine great-nieces and nephews.

MANNIE WILEY

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Mannie Wiley were held at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd on May 26.

His niece, Grace Smith of Edmond, played an original flute composition "Whisper on the Land" as a special family tribute. She was accompanied by her daughter, Andrea.

He died May 23. He was born in Dustin to Adam and Melissa Kanard Wiley on Dec. 29, 1918. He attended boarding school at Euchee Mission and was an all-state guard and co-captain of the 1939 Sapulpa Chieftan football team. He served in World War II as a machine gunner in the 101st Airborne Rangers in New Guinea and Australia. He was a long-time employee of Oklahoma Gas and Electric and retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 1984.

He is survived by: brothers, Harmon Wiley, Miami; Adam Wiley, Los Angeles; daughters, Karla Fleming, Sapulpa; Linda Hammond, Ada; and grandchildren, Melissa Fleming, Amarillo, Texas, Kristin Fleming, Stillwater; and Heather and Jason Hammond, Ada.

Interment was in Greenhills Memorial Gardens.

Gratitude

Mere words could never express the gratitude that we feel. The Lord has surely blessed us with many, many friends to help us through a very difficult time in our lives. During Clint's illness and death you were there for us — whether it was a smile, a pat on the back, your kind words of encouragement, your shoulder to cry on, your donations, the flowers you sent, the food you brought, your phone calls, your visits, or the song services. There are so many things that we have to be thankful for, but it is because of your friendship and your support that we are able to cope with our loss.

As we all know that Clint was a very special person and he has left us many wonderful memories, he was very proud that we had so many friends to call or come by and see him while he was ill. I know that he would be just as proud that so many still call and come by to see how we are doing. Thank you so much for everything that you have done for us.

Clint Harjochee Family

Religion

Tallahassee Methodist seeks old records

OKMULGEE — Alfred Berryhill, Tallahassee Methodist Church Board of Trustees is soliciting any photos and-or recordings of Rev. Togo Berryhill.

He may be contacted at: 1106 S. Sioux, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Letters to the editor

continued from page 2

ries and legends of medicine men using the feathers of birds in bad ways to hurt others.

My customer didn't.

One day later, two of her associates saw the painting on her office wall. They began to tell her that it was a bad omen to have the picture in her office.

Though the painting was intended to be a birthday present for her mother, she wanted to return the work.

Because of the efforts of two people I don't even know, a birthday present was ruined and they desecrated an artist's work.

I portrayed this bluejay resting on a fence post with a vision of the bird in flight with beauty and vigor. I had no thought of plucking the bird's feathers to be used to hurt others.

I believe my customer has also seen the beauty of the painting and I hope she uses it as a present. It is a work of art and there is no evil related to it.

This does not discourage me in any way, for I have had too many friends, associates, customers, and most importantly, my family members encourage me. I was always taught by my mother and grandmother that God made good and it's people that make good evil.

Robert Satterfield, Hanna

Citizen wants unity in community

Editor:

One of our Muskogee District representatives said "what a mess" about the situation at the Muskogee Indian Community.

I have known Helen Chupco [Muskogee District National Council representative] since 1974. I have always kept to myself the facts about what she has said to me in the past and the language she has used.

When my daughter [Rita Tiger] ran for National Council [1992], she began a dirty campaign. Our representative should represent us but she is always going against our community, disrupting things with pettiness because she no longer can control the community.

She got my daughter to be the community chair and encouraged the other officers to run. After my daughter became chair, Chupco thought she could control her.

But the new officers didn't listen and now she wants my daughter out of office. I believe Chupco tries to intimidate others. I have witnessed her yelling at my daughter at a meeting and called her a dictator. At this particular meeting, my daughter was just trying to keep order.

I don't believe a concerned Council woman and a Christian should be disruptive in our community.

I like Helen Chupco as Helen Chupco. Some of the things she does, I don't like. She has instigated problems in the Muskogee Indian Community. The community cannot function properly because something disruptive is always coming up.

My father, Coleman Lewis, was a missionary. I was taught to live right. My daughter was taught to do things right and be honest. All of us Indians are supposed to be spiritual in our conscience. My father used to tell me though I cannot be perfect, I can try to be. He also said if you are trying to do right, obstacles will be placed in your path. I believe my daughter is trying to do right.

Traditionalists like my father used to teach me how to meet these things that come against me and to be firm and faithful — always be honest. When you need any help, be prayerful. That's what I tell Rita. I also tell her to respect the elderly.

We should all try to work together for the good of our community and people. Elderly should be the role models to our younger people and not be detrimental. Best wishes and God's blessing to other communities.

Lucinda Tiger, Muskogee

Citizen thanks volunteers

Editor:

I would like to thank everyone that took part in welcoming Sue John Sarkar and JoAnna Adams from New Jersey.

As the chair of the Hanna Indian Community, I want to thank each and every member of the community who contributed to the success of this event. Special thanks to Judith Pickering for involving the community youth in meeting these two special people.

Thanks also to Wanda Williamson and Martha Lowe for preparing the large dinner served to all (about 100 people attended) and to the members that brought a covered dish.

A big thanks to Tallahassee Tribal Ground for putting on a dance and getting the tribal members to perform on such short notice — some travelled a great distance to make sure it was a success.

There are so many people I need to mention and thank. To all of you who participated, I would like to say *mvto* on behalf of Hanna Indian Community and myself.

Rebecca Barnett, Hanna

Board member responds to letter

Editor:

On behalf of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Board of Directors, I would like to clarify some misconceptions in Okema Randall's previous letter [July, *The MNN*].

Paula Willits is a volunteer responsible for our newsletter. She has put together a professional format — which was lacking — and strives to inform our community about TCIC activities. She was the secretary of the board for two terms and did record minutes.

Community members were informed in April about a board of directors workshop — set-up for board members. Volunteers were requested to assist. Invitations were sent to the chartered communities. Those

Fife seeks reelection

continued from page 1

ceremonies on the traditional grounds and has built a stronger relationship with them.

Fife also said that through the work of tribal employees, the government has improved elderly services, roads and driveways, enhanced employee capability, encouraged leadership development, provided more career opportunities for women, and recognized citizens for achievement also.

Fife said as a nationally recognized tribal leader, he served on the Bureau of Indian Affairs reorganization task force that was created by a presidential mandate. Fife said he has continually spoke out for reorganization that would preserve rights of Indian citizens, benefit Indian families, and directly impact services to Indian tribes and local Indian communities.

Fife said he envisions implementing new economic development programs and new technologies, expanding health services, decentralizing services to all eight districts, and preserving and promoting Creek culture in the next four years. Fife said he is well-known for his defense of sovereignty and concern for human rights and will continue to "advocate a national policy

participating were Muskogee, Duck Creek, Twin Hills, Kellyville, Okmulgee, and Weleetka. Although TCIC has been requested by Muskogee Nation to sponsor another workshop.

It is very easy to say our organization practices nepotism, conflict of interest, and irresponsible spending. It would be more difficult to prove, however.

The question of starting a community in Broken Arrow was due to the many Muskogee people who reside in Broken Arrow, but not in our boundaries.

Also, it is common knowledge that Jerry Wilson wrote the bill for the smokeshop and Randall was the sponsor. Without the support of everyone, it would not have passed.

We all enjoy spending the revenue from the smokeshop, as it provides emergency assistance and funding for [Festival] olympics, job searches, and elderly programs. These are just a few things we do with our revenue.

We have just purchased a 15-passenger van for transportation services, which Randall mentioned. Though it is not equipped with a wheel chair lift, it is the best we could find for our money. Revenue is not being spent frivolously.

We realize theft and embezzlement exists within our Muskogee Nation communities. This was one reason for the board of directors workshop. We must all endeavor to see that theft and embezzlement do not occur.

In reference to the case mentioned by Randall, it is in the hands of the attorney general. Assistant attorney general Ken Yates has indicated any concerned person with any questions or information may contact him at (918) 756-8700, ext. 301.

To provide more accountability to our community, we have contracted the accounting firm of Deloitte and Touche. By doing this and setting up a voucher system, we have in place "checks and balances" for our community.

I hope this has enlightened Randall and others. Randall's concerns and input are appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to let everyone know TCIC is doing well. We encourage all members to participate in meetings and activities to learn first hand what TCIC is about.

Gloria Lowe, TCIC treasurer, Tulsa

that affects Creek citizens."

"A large number of supporters want me to continue the public agenda proposed in my first campaign, and I have decided to do so," Fife said. "This means involvement of Creek citizens in tribal government, new economic opportunities, better customer driven services, and building a national reputation as a progressive Indian nation."

A Vietnam War veteran and a lifelong resident of the Muskogee Nation, Fife lives a few miles from the community where he was raised. He attends Thlewarle Baptist Church and is the son of the late Jimmie and Carmen Fife.

He holds a bachelor's degree from Northeastern State University, Tahlequah. He and his wife, Mary, have two children and one grandchild.

Notice to readers

Please submit your October event announcements for publication in the September issue. The October edition of *The Muscogee Nation News* will be exclusive to political coverage. We are understaffed and lack funding to accommodate story requests:

— Eds.



The Muscogee Nation News

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September 1995, 8 Pages

Congressional cuts prompt Principal Chief Fife to declare tribal emergency

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief Bill Fife has declared a state of emergency as federal lawmakers attempt to dismantle the Bureau of Indian Affairs and reduce funding — as much as 45 percent — to funds allocated for self-governance tribes.

The impending budget battle has been a priority for Fife since August. In September he led a delegation to Washington, D.C. to meet with Congressional representatives and other tribal leaders who believe generally, the federal government is attempting to terminate tribal governments through appropriations.

"Historically the federal has a responsibility to uphold trust relationships between the tribes and the United States," Fife said. "Tribal leaders will continue to meet and send representatives to Washington, D.C. and we will do what is necessary to make our voices heard and continue the growth our tribes have evidenced in the past century. This is the message we want to send to the Congress and the President of the United States."

The impetus for the dramatic reversal has been attributed to Republican control of both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. Leaders of both

houses have promised to reduce the federal deficit and balance the budget.

While that is usually considered campaign fodder, congressional leadership seems intent on delivering this promise.

The House and Senate submitted separate budgets with differing amounts for Indians. Though both budgets reflect decreases in spending, the House mark was much kinder than the Senate funding mark. Representatives and senators met in a conference committee to settle differences with the appropriations. Those meetings occurred in early September.

Before the House-Senate conference committee met, attempts to restore Department of the Interior funding were made by Sens. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) and Pete Domenici (D-N.M.) by amendment. It was defeated, leaving tribes little choice but to lobby the conference committee members directly.

please see **FUNDING**..., page 8



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Representative Tom Coburn accepts gifts from Principal Chief Bill Fife following a meeting between tribal administrators and the Muskogee congressman. The principal chief, Second Chief Shelly Crow, and other tribal leaders addressed specific Muskogee programs that would be affected by the U.S. Senate's proposed \$206 million budget cuts to 555 tribal governments in the U.S.

Muscogee Nation position on federal funding reductions

Principal Chief presents position paper

OKMULGEE — Proposed legislation from the 104th Congress threatens the unique government-to-government relationship that the United States now enjoys with the Muskogee (Creek) Nation.

Our concerns are:

- accrued savings from the reduction in the Bureau of Indian Affairs work force are not being passed on to tribal governments;
- (Congressional acts are) potential violations of trust and fiduciary responsibilities as required by treaty and statutory obligations; and

please see **POSITION**..., page 8



Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation attended the Miss Cherokee pageant held in Tahlequah recently. Pictured, left to right, are: Miss MCN Royce Grammar; Miss Cherokee Julie Deerinwater; and Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Joe Byrd.



Choctaw Nation royalty were selected during the tribe's annual festival at Tuskahoma. Pictured, left to right, are Little Miss Choctaw Nation Melissa Cummins; Miss Choctaw Nation Kendra King; Grammar; and Junior Miss Choctaw Kristi Young.

photos by Stephanie Berryhill

Second Chief Crow discusses executive order

by Shelly Crow

Principal Chief Bill Fife rescinded the "role and mission" of the second chief and eliminated my office staff by an executive order issued Sept. 1.

The order was politically motivated — plain and simple. I announced my candidacy for principal chief and Fife issued his executive order.

I believe I have done a good job as your second chief. I have never received a reprimand nor have I ever received a letter telling me I was out-of-step with any provisions or our Constitution.

When I made an issue of the financial problems in our government and the seriousness of the pending federal budget cuts, Chief Fife became alarmed because I know what to do.

Fife did not support me in my bid for second chief in 1991, but I have always tried to work with him and at the same time maintain an honest open line of communication with our people.

I have written hundreds of memos to the chief about my views on the many different problems being experienced by the tribe — budget shortfalls, excessive travel, lack of accountability, employees double dipping into federal and tribal funds and the good ol' boy syndrome that is such a big part of this administration.

One thing I have made perfectly clear to Chief Fife and his cronies during this past year is that if he can not provide the leadership this tribe needs, then it is my sworn duty to step up to that task. I believe this is why he is attacking me.

The chief may not like me and he may even be afraid of me, but putting me out of sight is not going to make any of his problems or me go away.

The Creek voters elected me to office to serve them as their second chief. I believe it is wrong for Chief Fife to deny them access to their second chief.

I will continue to serve my people as best I can under the circumstances. I am not going to give up.

Mvto for your continued support. Together we can make a positive change for the future of our great Indian Nation.

Notice to our readers

Your September edition of *The Muscogee Nation News* is late this month because of the state of emergency declared by Principal Chief Bill Fife. This action is a result of the pending federal funding cuts. The department's resources were utilized to produce a newsletter about the federal appropriations process. If you did not receive one via the mail, contact the department at (918) 756-8700 to receive one. We regret the delay and will resume normal production schedules for the October election issue.

— Eds.

Letters to the editor

Citizen praises tribal festival

Editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to the ones who were responsible for the Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo this year.

It was good to see Ken Factor, Muscogee Nation Executive Director, doing his share and more to make everyone feel welcome.

On behalf of the Native American Marrow Recruitment Project, I want to thank everyone who came forward to become a possible marrow donor.

May next year be more successful and rewarding for everyone who attends and participates in the Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo.

Donna Rhodes, Glenpool

Citizen cites lack of professionalism

Editor:

At the July 29 Muscogee (Creek) National Council regular session, NCA 95-88 failed by a vote of 15-14 to oust gaming commissioner Rocky McIntosh from his present position.

With respect to why they voted as they did, it is apparent our representatives were confused about the issue.

Considering the facts that commissioner McIntosh was [allegedly] using abusive power for personal reasons, he was called before the National Council. All representatives have copies of letters addressed to individuals from commissioner McIntosh making specific requests that could not possibly be honored. This was the issue, not the domestic problems he has at home.

I am ashamed that Tulsa representatives Larry Bible and Earl King walked out of preagenda and regular sessions stating they wanted no part in this matter. As a constituent I had no vote from three representatives with Edwin Moore being absent also.

I feel very strongly about condoning this type of dictatorial attitude McIntosh has displayed.

A need for effective leadership in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is critical at this point. An appeal for redress of grievances and community problems has been ignored. Chief Fife's reluctance to admit mistakes and correcting or solving them with appropriate action has been unsatisfactory. If the standards of the Nation are to be enhanced, our gaming commissioner should certainly not be above reproach. My observation indicates the administration and management showed a lack of professionalism in this instance.

The representatives are elected by the people of their districts and they are entrusted to represent the voters by being capable of recognizing matters for law enforcement.

Absentee voters, please remember this in October and vote accordingly.

Okema Randall, Broken Arrow

Editor's note: Randall is a former Tulsa District Rep. to the National Council.

Citizen wants priorities examined

Editor:

Many things in my short life have outraged me. What I recently heard about the treatment of our Muscogee youth that were en route to the North American Indigenous Games in Minnesota upsets me.

They were transported in a school bus for 14 hours with no air conditioning in the heat of the summer.

I ask, do our children not deserve the best? The next time a tribal employee or elected or appointed official decide to take a trip to a conference let them take the bus with no air conditioning. When they get there let them stay at a shelter or YMCA. Tribal revenue is for all citizens, not just agency loafers.

Where are our priorities? As an Indian nation our primary focus should be on the elderly and the youth. What has happened to our once great Nation? It seems our once strong, powerful foundation has turned to saltine crackers. Will all that our ancestors died for go in vain? Where are our great leaders? Who will redesign our government so that it will be a voice of all the people for the people?

It seems our once great Nation has patterned itself so much like mainstream society that our people have become numbers and service workers favorite phrases are 'insufficient funds' and 'you do not qualify.' Instead of looking for ways to help they hunt for loopholes that keep them from the aid people need.

The future of the Muscogee Nation should not rest

please see **LETTERS...**, page 7

Clarification

• The source of historic information included in tribal citizen Rick Wilde's letter to the editor (*The MNN*, Vol. 24, Issue 8) was omitted. It is attributed to the late author Angie Debo's "The Road to Disappearance."

• The name of tribal citizen Kendall J. Little's mother was incorrectly listed on the society page (*The MNN*, Vol. 24, Issue 7). Her name is Gerri Little.

The Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

James Wolfe, managing editor
Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff

Muscogee Election '95

Harjo announces principal chief bid

OKMULGEE — Allen Harjo of Tulsa is a candidate for Muscogee Nation Principal Chief.

Harjo, a longtime political activist, is the current administrator of Thlophlocco Tribal Town.

"I am prepared to provide the [Muscogee] tribe with new leadership with quality and experience," Harjo said in a prepared statement. "I am a full blood, speak the Creek language, and have the communication skills to better represent the Creeks within the tribe and within the state or on a national level."

Harjo, an accountant and former director of the Creek Nation Community Hospital, said the tribal Constitution provides for the principal chief to be responsible for the budget matters, but the tribe's present financial

matters continue to be questionable.

"I am prepared to design a computerized accounting system that will provide the tribe with better management over its budget matters.

"Our present principal chief has been deficient in providing good, strong leadership in tribal administration, health administration, and our housing administration," Harjo said. "Our health administration [has been] diverted into a brother-in-law operation and became wasteful and unresponsive to the Creek needs. The quality of the health care needs improvement."

Harjo also cited other areas of concern.

"Our housing administration is so warped that the neediest remain unassisted while the favorites are assisted



Harjo

first," Harjo said. "Our principal chief has delegated authority to some wrong individuals and [has] failed to take corrective action.

"This diminishes the motivation with staff members resulting in program weakness. Our tribal support staff and employees do not receive the respect they deserve.

"Instead, just days be-

please see HARJO..., page 4

Childers joins second chief race

OKMULGEE — Long-time political activist Ken Childers has announced his candidacy for Muscogee Nation Second Chief.

Childers is chair of the Creek Nation Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.

"There is a need for experienced and diplomatic leadership to guide tribal government through what promises to be an uncertain and difficult next four years," Childers said. "The uncertainty lies in the direction the federal government is taking by eliminating programs and reducing funding to many others. It will become increasingly difficult to expand our programs and services in these times."

Childers said his priorities are to:

- improve the relationship between the tribal administration and the National Council;
- increase efforts for economic development in order to provide jobs;
- strive for greater tribal self-sufficiency and independence from the federal government;

• increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the delivery of services;

• maintain and strengthen the management system to

ensure that all programs benefit as many citizens as possible; and

• emphasize education and job training so that tribe members can become more competitive in the job market.

"The office of second chief can have a tremendous impact on the quality of governmental operations," Childers said. "I vow to serve as the connecting force between the tribal administration and the National Council as well as communicate the needs of the citizenry directly to both branches of government.

please see CHILDERS..., page 4



Childers

Gray enters race for chief

OKMULGEE — Muscogee citizen Ralph Gray of Tulsa, has announced his candidacy for principal chief.

"My candidacy is based on the philosophy of providing responsible and strong leadership," Gray said. "I want to provide more citizens with the opportunity to a higher education and promote preservation of the Mvskoke culture."

Gray said he is of the Deer Clan and Tulsa Little River Tribal Town and an adopted member of Arbeka. He is the son of Robert Gray and Allene Criner and the grandson of the late Netche and Bertha Gray, formerly of Holdenville.

"Currently, Congress is considering major budget



Gray

please see GRAY..., page 4

LaSarge announces candidacy for Muscogee Nation second chief

OKMULGEE — Okmulgee resident Charley LaSarge has announced his candidacy for Muscogee Nation Second Chief.

LaSarge is the former manager of the tribe's commodity food distribution program. He resigned his position in August after 10 years.

During his tenure, LaSarge said he accomplished many of his short and long range planned goals and objectives and has been instrumental in addressing the nutritional concerns in behalf of the nation at the local and national levels.

LaSarge cited the design, development, and relocation of the food distribution program to a new facility on the tribal complex grounds as one of the highlights of his tenure.

"The program inventory records and such were all done manually when I began as a warehouse supervisor," LaSarge said. "Today, the

program is fully automated and computerized to provide efficient, accurate record keeping and improved delivery of services to our citizens."

LaSarge also noted the development and implementation of a nutrition education program for participants that stressed a healthy and creative diet with a

variety of foods distributed by the program.

"These kinds of programs are very beneficial to our participants," LaSarge said. "It is an example of how education can be used to improve the quality of life for people."

Professionally, LaSarge has served eight consecutive one-year terms as president of the Oklahoma-New Mexico Food Action Committee for Tribes, which includes membership from 19 tribal organizations. As president, LaSarge was instrumental in the development of policy, regulations, and design changes in the relationship be-

tween the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Consumer Service and tribal organizations.

Some of those changes are the new office of Native American Programs for the Southwest Region (to deal directly with the tribes), changing the definition of Indian households to provide for those that have minor Indian children, automated communication link up to the regional offices, and presented plan for a more efficient distribution agency for food delivery.

"I will continue to advocate for the redefinition of excluded service availability to urban populated areas."

LaSarge has also served as vice president of the National Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations, which represents 106 tribal sponsored programs and presented oral and written testimony on behalf of Indian people to the federal government and was one of 15 selected to serve on the national advisory council that deals with programs like the Women's, Infants and Children (WIC), school lunch program, and eld-

please see LaSARGE..., page 4



LaSarge

Harjo

continued from page 3

fore Christmas (1994), they received political threats of termination simply because the administration does not have the resourcefulness to accomplish budget approval."

Other issues cited by Harjo include:

- communication problems between the three branches of government. Harjo said this breakdown has resulted in disrespect for the effectiveness and responsibility of each of the areas.

"As proof, a Council member, the second chief, and an assistant attorney general are all running for a [higher office]," Harjo said. "These same persons were elected and-or appointed to serve the Creek tribe. During this campaign, they cannot objectively address the duties of their [respective] positions. Meanwhile, we should be curious of their accomplishments."

- poor representation and lack of a definitive position regarding the reorganization and downsizing of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

"Voting tribal members and nonvoting tribal members alike, as well as future generations of Creeks, will be affected by the restructuring of the BIA," Harjo said. "The tribal organization will be affected by the programs, but the individual Creeks are being affected by the trust relations with the [federal] government."; and

- lack of leadership. "The principal chief needs to demonstrate leadership in the best interest of all Creeks as individuals in their communities, tribal activities, and to be more responsive to tribal youth and the elder. I am prepared to demonstrate leadership that I believe will be an honorable example."

Harjo has long had an interest in tribal affairs.

In 1976, Harjo sued the secretary of the interior. The case, known as *Harjo vs. Kleppe*, became the impetus for the tribal referendum on the constitution as well as elected direct representation to the National Council. Harjo opposed the 1979 Constitution. He first ran for principal chief in 1979.

Gray

continued from page 3

cuts to Indian tribes and we knew these cuts were coming, however we have not taken advantage of existing financial resources to insure a sound financial future for this tribe," Gray said. "I want to initiate an economic development program that will increase our capital base and bring about new employment opportunities for our citizens."

Gray said he is also concerned that elderly citizens are being neglected and treated like second class citizens by their own tribal government.

"I will make sure our elderly citizens are provided with the services they need and deserve. The Creek elderly are the backbone of our tribe. They deserve respect and we need to take advantage of their guidance. We need a change. It is time for a change," Gray said. "Our people deserve better and I want our citizens to be proud of the Muscogee Nation. We have been experiencing conflict and a disappointment in our current leadership, both in the executive and the legislative branches of government." He is a former employee of the tribe's children and family services administration.

Childers

continued from page 3

We must build bridges between the branches of government and the citizens so that we may all work together to confront the many tough issues that we as a people must face.

"I have the political experience and the broad knowledge of government that will allow me to work equally well with both the principal chief and the National Council. I am also able to deal effectively with, federal, state, and local governments on issues that impact our tribe."

Childers is a graduate of Coweta High School, Allied Institute of Chicago, and has attended the University of Oklahoma, Norman. He is a U.S. Navy veteran. Childers is employed with Coweta Public Schools as the Indian education program coordinator. The program received national recognition in 1989.

He served five terms as a National Council representative and four terms as speaker — most recently in 1990-91. Childers spent two years as co-chair of the gaming operations authority board and the last four years as housing authority chair.

Childers said bingo employees fringe benefits were increased and Muscogee citizens were named managers at the tribe's bingo halls. At the housing authority, Childers said more than \$13 million in new housing

LaSarge

continued from page 3

erly nutrition.

"I have consistently advocated the need of food assistance programs and nutritional education," LaSarge said. "When I read the Republicans' Contract with America, I saw it would have a devastating impact on American Indians."

LaSarge said he coordinated area, regional, and national coalitions to address welfare reform in written position papers.

"Those papers are now being utilized by tribal governments across the nation," LaSarge said. "I delivered papers to all of the Oklahoma and New Mexico congressional delegations, the members of the House appropriations committee, and the Senate committee on Indian affairs."

LaSarge said he continues to advocate for the programs and that the experience has been beneficial.

"The experience I've gained will be beneficial to the Muscogee Nation," LaSarge said. "I have demonstrated that I am a candidate who is dependable, trustworthy, and proven effective leadership."

"Only through strong leadership and dedication can we begin to make a difference in the lives of our people. Economic development must be continually sought and sound proposals developed to provide a resource for employment and support for our people. Our people have a right to work and it's my belief that tribal government should be about creating jobs for those who need to work."

"In the coming months, federal and other subsidized programs will become increasingly dependent on tribal funding if they are continued at all. Now is the time to plan for future needs."

LaSarge is from Okmulgee where he resides with his wife Della. He has four children. He is the son of Lucy McIntosh LaSarge and the grandson of the late Newman McIntosh.

ing development money was awarded to the tribe as well as more than \$25 million to modernize older homes.

He ran for second chief in 1983 and finished third in the 1991 principal chief race.

Childers is the son of Mose and Violet Williams Freeman Childers. He is a member of the Potato Clan and Locapoka Tribal Town.

Candidate filings

(as of Sept. 21)

Principal Chief (age and hometown)

- Bill Fife, 53, Weleetka (i); Perry Beaver, 56, Jenks; Clarence Cloud, 75, Bristow; Shelly Crow, 47, Tulsa; Sherryl Gonseth, 41, Preston; Ralph Gray, 42, Tulsa; Allen Harjo, 60, Tulsa; Thomas Yahola, 56, Wetumka

Second Chief

- George Almerigi, 61, Henreytta; Perry Anderson, 62, Eufaula; Kenneth Childers, 55, Bixby; K.T. Fields, 43, Weleetka; Charley LaSarge, 42, Okmulgee

National Council

Creek District

Seat A: Earl Wheeler (i), Solomon Hill; Seat B: Duke Harjo (i), George Tiger; Seat C: Phyllis Warrington (i) unopposed

McIntosh District

Seat A: Tommy Pickering (i), Carrie Williams; Seat B: Wilbur Gouge (i), Barbara Fogle; Seat C: Yahola Townsend (i), Thomas McIntosh (i) [The district lost two seats as a result of referendum. Rep. Sandy McIntosh declined to run.]

Muskogee District

Seat A: Helen Chupco (i), Joseph Coachman; Seat B: Frances Pease (i), Leonard Gouge, Harley Little

Okfuskee District

Seat A: Mae Jackson (i), Gary Mitchell, Nancy Watson, Billy Williams; Seat B: Bruce Smith (i), Wynema Roberts (i) [The district lost one seat as a result of referendum.], Bobby Harjo; Seat C: Clyde Johnson (i), Simmer Hicks

Okmulgee District

Seat A: David Lewis (i), Peggy Lyda (i) [The district lost two seats as a result of referendum. Rep. Jim Harjo declined to run.], Betty Gray, Woodrow Lee; Seat B: Anderson Hale (i), Garry Berryhill, July Tecumseh; Seat C: Charlie Litsey (i), Abe McIntosh; Seat D: A.D. Ellis (i), unopposed; Seat E: David Nichols (i), Thomas Berryhill, Patsy Wahnee

Tukvptce District

Seat A: Dwayne Lowe (i), James McGirt; Seat B: Tim Fife (i), L.C. Franks, Edwin Marshall; Seat C: Darrell Coachman (i), Johnson Buck

Tulsa District

Seat A: Larry Bible (i), Teddy McHenry, Richard Wilde; Seat B: Irene Cleghorn (i), Earl King (i) [The district lost two seats as a result of referendum. Rep. Beaver is a chief candidate.]; Seat C: Ed Moore (i), Stan McGilbray, Carol Morris, Okema Randall, Ron Cleghorn; Seat D: Steve Bruner (i), Faren Bunny, Jerry Wilson; Seat E: Jesse Kelley (i), Earl Kelly

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District

Seat A: Richard Berryhill (i), Thurston Primeaux; Seat B: Barbara Gillespie (i), Marie Crittenden

Muscogee obituaries

ANNIE COKER BEAR

OKFUSKEE — Funeral services for Annie Coker Bear were held Aug. 7 at Montezuma Baptist Church with Rev. Earnest Marshall officiating. Revs. Willis Knight and Bunny Soweka assisted.

Bear was born Dec. 3, 1903 to Charlie and Hettie Lena Coker. She died Aug. 4 at Creek Nation Community Hospital.

She married Lonnie Bear in 1924 at Okemah. He preceded her in death. She was a homemaker, a member of Montezuma Baptist Church, and a lifelong resident of Okfuskee County.

She was preceded in death by: her husband; three sons, Abert Bear, Lucky Bear, and Bob Bear; and one daughter, Stella Mueller.

Survivors include: three sons, Lon Bear, Clifford Bear, and Ashley Bear, all of Okemah; one daughter, Pat Noon of Okemah; 34 grandchildren; 55 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandson.

Grandsons served as pallbearers.

Interment was in Montezuma Cemetery.

HOKKOLEN TUFV BIBLE

TULSA — Funeral services for Hokkolen (Two Feathers) Tufv Bible were held in July at Mark Griffith Memorial Chapel with Revs. Jimmy Alexander and Bill Alexander officiating.

Bible was born July 13 and died July 27. She was the infant daughter of Mark and Marquita Bible of Tulsa.

Survivors include: her parents; brothers, Anthony Albert and Benjamin Howlingcrane, both of Tulsa, Roman Ridge of Tahlequah, Mark Bible Jr., Andrew Bible, and Ryan Bible, all of Tulsa; a sister, Corra Bible of the home; maternal grandmother, Rena Crane of Tulsa; and paternal grandfather, Gene Bible of Sapulpa.

Pallbearers were Charles Howlingcrane and Gee Tanner.

Interment was in Floral Haven Cemetery.

JAMES BRIAN

OKMULGEE — Graveside services for James Allen Brian were held July 25 in with a U.S. Navy chaplain officiating.

Brian was born Jan. 25, 1914 to Charles Maywood and Hettie Ashley Brian at Ashley Corners. He died in July of prostate cancer.

A graduate of Okmulgee High School and Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Brian was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Navy. He was a school teacher and spent many years in municipal government.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; two sisters; and one brother.

Survivors include: his wife, Shelley Anne; daughters, Dr. Dana Brian, and Jill Holleman and her husband, Arthur Lee; sons, Buck Brian and Dr. Michael Brian; six grandchildren; several

great-grandchildren; a niece; and two nephews. Interment was in the Okmulgee Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Okmulgee firefighters fund.

BRADEN CUSHER

OKMULGEE — Graveside services for Braden Jackson Cusher were held Aug. 19 at Newtown United Methodist Church with Revs. David Long Jr. and John Buckner officiating.

Cusher was the infant son of Bobby and Jacque Cusher of Okmulgee. He was born July 17 and died the same day.

Survivors include: his parents; one sister, Bailey Dawn Cusher of the home; maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bevenue of Okmulgee; paternal grandparents, Linda Cusher of Okmulgee and Corneal Cusher of Smithville; paternal great-grandmother, Flora Cusher of Smithville; several aunts; several uncles; and cousins.

CHARLES RAYMOND GREEN

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Charles Raymond "Sonny" Green were held Aug. 11 at Shurden Chapel with Rev. Jack Vance officiating.

Green was born April 9, 1941 to Charlie and Juanita Taber Green of Hanna. He died Aug. 8 in Tulsa.

He was a radiographer and a member of the American Legion and the International Union of Operating Engineers.

He was preceded in death by: his father; an infant daughter, Connie Green; and an infant son, Scott Green.

Survivors include: children, Angela Green, Michael Green, Robert Green, and Steven Green, all of Tulsa; his mother, Juanita Green of Henryetta; three sisters, Jeannette Feken of Norman, Paullete Rogers of Henryetta, and Kaye Berryhill of Broken Arrow; and five grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Robert Evans; Billy Brown; Nip Rogers; Ronnie Bartolina; Tommy Yates; and Keith Palmer. Honorary pallbearers were: Kenny Powders; Bill Graham; Bunnie Carter; and Rock Gahm.

HATTIE S. JESSEE

ROGERS, Ark. — Memorial services for Hattie S. Jessee were held Aug. 19 at First Presbyterian Church.

An original allottee, Jessee was born Dec. 10, 1902 to Willoughby and Cordia Swingle at Bixby, Indian Territory. She died Aug. 3 in Tulsa.

A retired Tulsa County Courthouse employee, Jessee was also the Muscogee Nation Advisory Council recording secretary during the terms of appointed Principal Chief Dode McIntosh. She also edited the tribal newsletter during her eight years as secretary. She was a member of the Past Grand Ruth Order of Eastern Star. Jessee was also a member of the First Presbyterian Church,

Rogers.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Garland Jessee.

Survivors include: daughters, Mary Louise Adair, Lalah Joann Adair, and Patricia Goetz, all of Tulsa, Carolyn Lay of Rogers, and Alice Neighbors of Oklahoma City; a son, Jerry Jessee of Oklahoma City; brother and sister-in-law, Ted and Ruby Swingle of Bixby; 10 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Jessee requested her body be donated to Oklahoma Health Science Medical School. Memorials may be made to the building fund at First Presbyterian Church.

PHYLLIS LEWIS

DUSTIN — Funeral services for Phyllis Lynn Lewis were held Aug. 29 at the First Assembly of God Church with Brother Bill Covey officiating. She died Aug. 23 in Baton Rouge, La.

She was born Feb. 5, 1963 in Claremore and lived in Dustin her entire life. She was a 1981 graduate of Dustin High School. She was working for Sunland Construction Company at the time of her death. She had also worked for Wrangler, Okemah, and the Creek Turnpike McDonalds. She received many awards and certificates while an employee there. She enjoyed arts and crafts and had a talent for Indian beadworking.

Preceding her in death was her brother, Paul Lewis, in 1989.

Survivors include: her parents, Flora Lewis, Dustin, and Bunny Lewis, Hanna; two sisters, Nancy Hulstine, Wetumka, and Lisa Lewis of the home; a special friend, Gus Cox, Hanna; three brothers, Jonas Lewis, Tucson, Ariz., Randall and Freddie Lewis, both of Dustin; two nephews, Paul Eric Lewis and T.J. Carter; three nieces, Elisha Marie Lewis, Tina Carter, and Misty Carter; and one great-nephew, Keanon Giles.

Interment was in the Lewis Family Cemetery.

DARRIN JACLIN NEWTON

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Darrin Jaclin Newton were held Sept. 2 with Rev. John Tiger officiating.

He was the infant son of Quincy Taylor and Rachell Newton. He died Aug. 30 at Children's Medical Center, Oklahoma City.

Survivors include: his parents of Okemah; siblings, Precious Sevors, Kyle Sevors, Lincoln Sevors, Seth Newton, and Stoney Newton, all of the home; maternal grandparents, Junior and Lizzie Sevors of Okemah; two aunts; one uncle; and a host of cousins.

CLARENCE SMITH

PAWHUSKA — Graveside services for Clarence "Bennie" N. Smith were held June 27 at Pawhuska Cemetery with services officiated by Rev. James Edmison and Masonic Burial Rites

Fellowship, singings

Central Baptist to celebrate 30 years

OKLAHOMA CITY — Central Baptist Church will celebrate 30 years of membership on Oct. 7 and 8.

Church members invite all people to join them for a weekend of fellowship and reminiscing. On the evening of the seventh, the speaker will be Rev. Wade Robertson, who pastored of the church from 1978 through 1985. On Oct. 8 the speaker will be Rev. Pete Mayse, who pastored Central from 1985 through 1990.

The church is located at 829 N.W. Eighth St.

For more information, contact: Leon Post oak, (405) 239-6047; Christine Baker, (405) 631-1714; or Richard Anderson Jr., (405) 685-0674.

Lawrence Church to hold all-night singing

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Lawrence Indian United Methodist Church will hold its annual gospel all-night singing Oct. 7.

Dinner will be served at 4:30 p.m. at the church, located at 21st and Haskell streets. The singing will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Indian Hills Church of God, 29th Terrace and Louisiana streets.

Norman Carey will be the master of ceremonies. This year's event has been dedicated to the memory of Lucy Bohannon Hardy, a Lawrence Indian UMC charter member that passed away in April. She served on various church committees,

including the evangelism committee, which coordinates the annual singing. The members of this year's committee have changed the name of the singing to reflect their appreciation and gratitude for Hardy. The event will now be referred to as the "Lucy Hardy Memorial Gospel Singing."

For more information, contact: Rev. Brad Drowningbear, (913) 841-4228; Billy Carey, (913) 842-6185; or Richard Morris, (913) 843-7659.

For motel information, contact Super 8 at: 1 (800) 800-8000 and indicate party attendance at "LIUMC Gospel Singing."

Springfield schedules fundraisers, revival

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church members have scheduled two fundraisers and a revival, all to held in October.

A Christmas fundraising food and yard sale will be held at Okemah Indian Community Center at 9 a.m., Oct. 7. Bingo will be held at seven that evening. From Interstate 40, it is located two blocks south on state highway 27.

Church members have planned "Halloween Fun Night" for 5 p.m., Oct. 22 at the church. Various games will be played. An award will be given for best Halloween costume.

A church revival will be held Oct. 19 through 22 at 7 nightly. Supper will be served at 4 p.m., Oct. 21. Refreshments will be served nightly. From Okemah, drive two miles south on state highway 27, four miles east, and one mile south.

children, Amy Guevara, Jesse Mounce, and Alisha Tecumseh.

Survivors include: his wife, Madelin Bruner Watashe of the home; six sons, Johnson Louis Watashe, Sylvester Watashe, Johnny Watashe, Shawn Watashe, and Andrew Watashe, all of Sapulpa, and Louis F. Watashe of Kellyville; five daughters, Mary Ann Tiger of Okmulgee, Frances Louise Watashe and Betty Samuel, both of Sapulpa, Regina Watashe of Twin Oaks, and Juanita Watashe of Oklahoma City; three brothers, James Watashe Jr. and Roman Watashe, both of Kellyville, and Lawrence Watashe of Sapulpa; a sister, Dorthy Lee Watashe of Kellyville, 50 grandchildren; 49 great-grandchildren; many relatives; and friends.

Pallbearers were: Ralph Guevara Jr.; Sylvester Watashe Jr.; Brian Watashe; Randall Samuels; Darren Samuels; and Darrell Samuels. Honorary pallbearers were: Frank Watashe; Arlen Samuels; Elisha Watashe; Levi Watashe; Michael S. Watashe; Dondi Wildcat. Flower carriers were: Kim Guevara; Marcia Correa; Antionette Samuels; Francine Wildcat; Yolanda Watashe; Wynette Watashe; and Amanda Watashe.

Interment was in the Bruner Family Cemetery.

Gratitude

I would like to thank Harley Little and the Muscogee Nation Social Services Department, Tulsa District Representatives Larry Bible and Irene Cleghorn for their support after the loss of my son, Harold Clark. Rep. Bible has always been there for all of his people. He is a very special person to all of us. I also appreciate the Creek Nation Housing Authority and Sharon Childers, who is a very special lady.

Pat Clark

The family of Henry Tarpalechee would like to thank the many people who brought food, sent flowers, called, said prayers and words of encouragement during the loss of our father, grandfather, and brother. A special thank you to Revs. George Miller and Jimmy Alexander and the members of Concharty and Big Cussetah United Methodist churches.

Henry Tarpalechee Family

A special thank you for everyone who donated food, money and those who sent cards and flowers. A special thank you goes to Revs. George Doyle, Bill Alexander, and Jimmy Alexander also. Also, thanks to Jeanetta Harjo Pickering. Words could never express all the love and support we received from our family and friends. Most of all, we appreciate the understanding of our sorrow of losing a most beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and friend. Mvto.

Louis F. Watashe Sr. Family

Obituaries

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by the Wah-Sha-She Lodge, Pawhuska.

Smith was born Sept. 27, 1900 in Indian Territory, near Haskell. He was an original allottee and a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason.

He was preceded in death by: his wife, Ruth; his parents, Daniel Boone and Mary Isabelle Berryhill Smith; five brothers; and three sisters.

He is survived by: one sister, Ida Belle Ragan, Oklahoma City; one sister-in-law, Argie Smith, Morris; and several nieces; and nephews.

HENRY TARPALACHEE

MORRIS — Funeral services for Henry "Hank" Tarpalechee were held June 24 at Big Cussetah United Methodist Church with Revs. Jim Alexander and George Miller officiating.

Tarpalechee was born Nov. 5, 1922 to Nancy and Miller Tarpalechee in Okmulgee County. He died June 21 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital.

He was a member and lay minister at Big Cussetah United Methodist Church. Tarpalechee was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

He was preceded in death by: his wife, Elizabeth Perryman Tarpalechee; his parents; three brothers, Martin, Johnson, and Yarme Tarpalechee; and daughter, Yannah Tarpalechee.

Survivors include: four daughters, Twyla Beaver of Henryetta, Cheryl Grayson of Beggs, Henrietta Tarpalechee of Morris, Teresa Jennings of Okmulgee and her husband, Bobby; two sons, Edward Tarpalechee and his wife, Rowena, and Yarme Tarpalechee, all of Okmulgee; two sisters, Mahaley Jones of Okmulgee and Mulsey Long of Seminole; 20 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Eddy Tarpalechee; Brian Tarpalechee; Darrell Tarpalechee; Tony Berryhill; Bobby Jennings; Buddy Beaver; and Darin Tarpalechee.

LOUIS FRANCIS WATASHE SR.

OAKHURST — Funeral services for Louis Francis Watashe Sr. were held Aug. 16 at Fellowship Baptist Church with Revs. Jimmy and Bill Alexander officiating.

He was born March 13, 1926 to James and Hattie Barnett Watashe at old Polecat Ceremonial Ground. He died Aug. 12, 1995 in Sapulpa.

Watashe was a U.S. Army Veteran of World War II and a member of Fellowship Baptist Church. He was a member of Polecat Ceremonial Ground.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; a brother, Andrew Watashe; and three great-grand-

Organizations, events

Family support group organizing

OKMULGEE — A family crisis support group seeking to organize will hold its first open meeting at 7 p.m., Sept. 25 at the independent agencies building (mound) auditorium at the capitol complex.

The group is for parents, grandparents, relatives, siblings, and others who would like to support those coping with the stress of family disruptions and issues.

Those with concern about coping with difficult family situations and seek emotional support are encouraged to attend. The meeting is open to the public.

For more information, call (918) 756-8700, ext. 337.

Hanna community announces elections

HANNA — Hanna Indian Community will hold an election for new board members at 7 p.m., Oct. 2.

For more information, write: Hanna Indian Community, Rt. 1, Box 10, Hanna, OK 74845.

Council House Indian Art Market

OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House Museum's Indian Art Market will be held Oct. 7.

The market will feature fine art and traditional American Indian art.

Special events include the presentation of the historical drama "Word of Honor: The Execution of Timmie Jack," (written by Muscogee citizen Sandra Peters), cultural demonstrations, juried art competitions, and a powwow.

For more information, call (918) 756-2324.

Advocacy program seeks volunteers

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee County Resource Center is seeking volunteers for its Court Appointed Special Advocates program.

The volunteers will be trained to act as advocates in proceedings involving abused children.

For more information, call the 24-hour crisis line at (918) 756-2545.

Citizen starts cleaning business

JENKS — Tribal Citizen Monica Grace, along with her husband, Kenny, have established a business — Amiracle Carpet and Upholstery Cleaners at 515 W. Eucha.

The Graces use Ninja 400 steam machines to clean automobile, recreation vehicle, and furniture upholstery and carpet. They are insured and cater to individual and commercial cleaning.

They and their three children, Brett, Lena, and Sammy, have lived in Jenks since 1993. Mrs. Grace is an accounting major at Tulsa Junior College. She is also a member of Jenks Central Parent-Teachers Association.

She is the daughter and granddaughter of the late James and Ida Deer Gray and Alfred and Munna Deer.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Dea Sanders and Paula Willits examine and admire the work of Seminole-Mvskoke textile artist Jay McGirt. McGirt gave a presentation over prerule south-eastern women's dress to the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Women's Auxiliary in early August. He has completed internships at the Smithsonian Institution and is one of few experts on south-eastern textile art.

Letters to the editor

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in the hands of a few incompetent people, but all should have a say in all tribal affairs. If you are not working for the people then get out of the way. Maybe it is time for some energetic people who will stand their ground and fight for the people, our treaty rights, our elderly, and our youth.

The Muscogee people are noted for being great warriors, orators, statesmen, diplomats, and business-minded, aggressive supporters of the people. We seem to have gone away from that, but it is time to go back.

I am proud to be a member of the Muscogee Nation; it is my elders and ancestors before them that make me proud. It's the beautiful songs and dances of our people. It is the spiritual insight that makes us who we are. It is our love of life and our remarkable resiliency also.

I know there are some who are working hard for change and want to see something good happen for the people. I commend your efforts.

Mark Randolph, Fort McDowell, Ariz.

Community members rebut letter Editor:

This is in response to the letter published in the August issue of *The Muscogee Nation News* — a malicious effort to attack the character of Helen Chupco.

A majority of the Muscogee (Creek) Indian Community support the efforts of Chupco. Some of us have come to know her on a personal basis and we respect her for her openness and we know she cares about the people whom she represents. She has a vast knowledge of the tribal constitution and also the community charter and abides by both.

Sure she is outspoken, but we want this kind of person representing us when a very serious issue is to be pondered and voted on during Council meetings. Wouldn't you want your Council person to vote according to their conscience because this is going to affect a lot of people? We do.

As community members we want it known that Chupco isn't being disruptive and creating problems at Muscogee Indian community. At meetings she gives her report on the National Council then offers advice or information on subjects that she feels the community needs to know before decisions are made pertaining to the community's future.

We are not going to get into a mud slinging match with other community members. All we mean to do is let readers know that we do not agree with what was written previously about Chupco and hope you do not believe what you have read.

Cletus Wilson, Muskogee

Editor's note: This letter was signed by 36 other community members.

Citizen thanks officials for help Editor:

On behalf of my family and myself I want to acknowledge and thank the following elected officials for their compassion and support during a recent troublesome situation my family in Eufaula was experiencing.

They are: Second Chief Shelly Crow; and McIntosh District Representatives Wilbur Gouge, Yahola Townsend, Tommy Pickering, Sandy McIntosh, and Thomas McIntosh.

I am very proud and appreciative of the way these individuals took the time to come together to stand up for the rights of our citizens involved in this matter. Unity, as such, should be extended throughout the Muscogee Nation.

Sherry Miller, Henryetta

Council representative apologizes Editor:

Regarding the Aug. 26 regular session of the National Council, I want to apologize to my constituents for my rude conduct.

As you know, the Council speaker would not give me the floor. How can I represent the people when the speaker will not acknowledge me?

Charlie Litsey, Okmulgee

Proposed funding cuts imperils operations

continued from page 1

Other tribal leaders attending included: National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola; Tulsa District representative Perry Beaver; Creek District rep. Earl Wheeler; tribal attorney general Marcella Giles; and others.

Sen. Slade Gorton (R-Wash.) chairs the subcommittee on Interior appropriations. Gorton has long worked to reduce and restrict the rights of tribes — a taste he acquired as Washington state attorney general. He has lost earlier battles with the Lummi and Pullayup tribes regarding fishing and water rights and now finds himself as chair of the interior appropriations committee with an opportunity for settling old scores.

Gorton wrote in the *The Washington Post* the ability of tribes to govern themselves is not determined by the amount of money they are given.

"Of all the criticism lobbed against this bill, the one that troubles me the most is the argument that reductions in spending will undercut the tribes' right of self-sufficiency and self-governance. To the contrary, some would argue that self-governance and self-determination ought to involve a degree of self-suffi-

ciency and self-reliance."

Giles said tribal leaders demonstrated the impact the cuts would have to all who would listen in Washington D.C.

"I want our people to realize how serious this issue is," Giles said. "The facts do not support Gorton's claim that tribes are cut only eight percent in total Indian funding. Other Indian programs outside the BIA would need to be increased by 37 percent. Instead, most have been cut dramatically."

Unknown is the impact cuts in other areas will have on the tribe. The Muscogee Nation receives federal funding from a variety of sources — the department of labor, housing and urban development, education, department of agriculture, and department of health and human services.

"Historically and presently, the federal government has a responsibility to uphold the trust relationship it has with each tribe, specifically the provision of funds to provide quality services to Indian peoples," Fife said.

"Tribes will continue sending representatives to Washington, D.C. to educate our Congress on Indian issues, to guard against termination, and to fight for restoration of budgets. We will do what is necessary to make our voices heard by those in a position to help us continue our governmental functions."

Tribe takes another shot; positions against move to tax gaming operations

WASHINGTON D.C. — The U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee has approved legislation that imposes a tax on tribal gaming operations.

The Muscogee Nation's position is as follows:

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation vehemently opposes the taxation of revenues raised by our tribal enterprises which includes our class two gaming operations. These revenues are fully utilized by the Muscogee Nation to provide governmental services and are fully business-related. It has been publicly stated in many forums that an overwhelming majority of the committee members oppose any new taxes. To single out Indian nations as the only entity for federal taxation is a disparate treatment and unconstitutional. We view this action as racist and a blatant first step towards ethnic genocide.

Congress has asserted that tribes can afford to take devastating budget cuts because we have gaming revenues. Yet income derived from gaming is being attacked by the House ways and means committee tax bill. The proposed tax violates the stated principal goal of federal Indian policy which is to promote tribal economic development, tribal self-sufficiency, and strong tribal governments. The proposed tax violates the trust responsibility of the U.S. government as it appears to place the trustee in the position of taxing the beneficiary. Anti-Indian factions in Congress cannot have it both ways.

Attempting to tax Indian tribes would be unprecedented in the history of this country. The authority of a tribe to tax and regulate its own activities is a

right guaranteed under the Constitution. This is a double attack against tribal sovereignty as it goes directly to the heart of our efforts to create tribal economic self-sufficiency in every tribe of the country. The tax bill is the unconscionable. Sovereigns do not tax sovereigns. This proposed tax is contrary to 225 years of federal Indian policy. It is an unreasonable and radical departure from the norm.

We strongly urge the Senate finance committee to reconsider House actions.

Address correspondence to: Senate Finance Committee, Senate Office Building Rm. #219, Washington D.C. 20510; or call: (202) 224-4515.

The following are some members of the Senate finance committee. Call, write, or use facsimile transmission to express comment.

Committee member, party affiliation, state, phone, facsimile transmission:

- William Roth, chair (R-Del.): (202) 224-2441, (202) 224-0354
- Bill Bradley (D-N.J.): (202) 224-3224, (202) 224-8567
- John Breaux (D-La.): (202) 224-4263, (202) 224-4268
- Kent Conrad (D-N.D.): (202) 224-2043, (202) 224-7776
- Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.): (202) 224-6542, (202) 224-5871
- Robert Dole (R-Kan.): (202) 224-6521, (202) 224-8952
- Bob Graham (D-Fla.): (202) 224-3041, (202) 224-2237
- Carol Moseley-Braun (D-Ill.): (202) 224-2854, (202) 224-2626
- Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska): (202) 224-6665, (202) 224-5301
- David Pryor (D-Ark.): (202) 2353, (202) 228-3973
- Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.): (202) 224-3424, (202) 224-1315

Tribal position paper presented to Congress

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• (proposed reductions will yield) disproportionate budget reductions to Indian programs.

A moratorium on reorganization by the BIA has been declared but continues under a budget-driven reduction of full-time employees. The reorganization of the BIA was announced by Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt and Vice President Al Gore. The savings accrued through reorganization was to be passed on to the tribes.

The paper also notes that U.S. President Bill Clinton issued an executive memorandum — mandating tribal consultation — that was ignored.

Trust responsibility has been declared by Congress to include the protection of the sovereignty of each tribal government. The Muscogee Nation has entered into eight specific treaties with the U.S. The tribe has also identified statutes, executive orders, federal acts, and U.S. Supreme Court decisions that affirm the Nation's sovereignty and establishes the federal government's fiduciary responsibility for the tribe.

The proposed legislation disproportionately applies budget reductions to Indian programs. This is most evident in the reduction in the tribal priority allocations (TPA) which will result in a 37 percent cut to tribal governments. Despite assurances of treaty-based funding, reduction in TPA will result negatively.

The Muscogee Nation stands to lose millions of dollars that provide for programs that address social and economic needs. Programs will be discontinued, unemployment will increase, states will see fewer dollars invested in their communities, and individual citizens will no longer have access to needed services. Further, cuts to education programs such as summer youth employment and the Job Training Partnership Act will deny opportunities to thousands of tribal youth.

Since 1819, Congress has upheld the original treaty contracts to "provide against the further decline and extinction of Indian tribes."

Welfare reform legislation infringes on tribal sovereignty by disallowing direct funding to Indian tribes for social welfare programs. The flexibility afforded to states to develop welfare programs is not afforded to tribal governments. The Muscogee Nation advocates direct funding to Indian tribes in any welfare reform legislation.

The way the Muscogee Nation conducts its affairs is about to change dramatically. As a result of federal budget cuts — both real and proposed — tribal program managers have been told to reduce program spending by 37 percent. The tribal communications department, including *The Muscogee Nation News*, is funded through self-governance and the indirect cost pool. Both will be affected by budget cuts. Should the 37 percent be realized, the tribal monthly will be affected. Other programs will also be affected. Make your voice heard regarding the prioritizing of tribal programs and services. Contact the office of the principal chief at (918) 756-8700, ext. 200, and the National Council at (918) 758-1416.



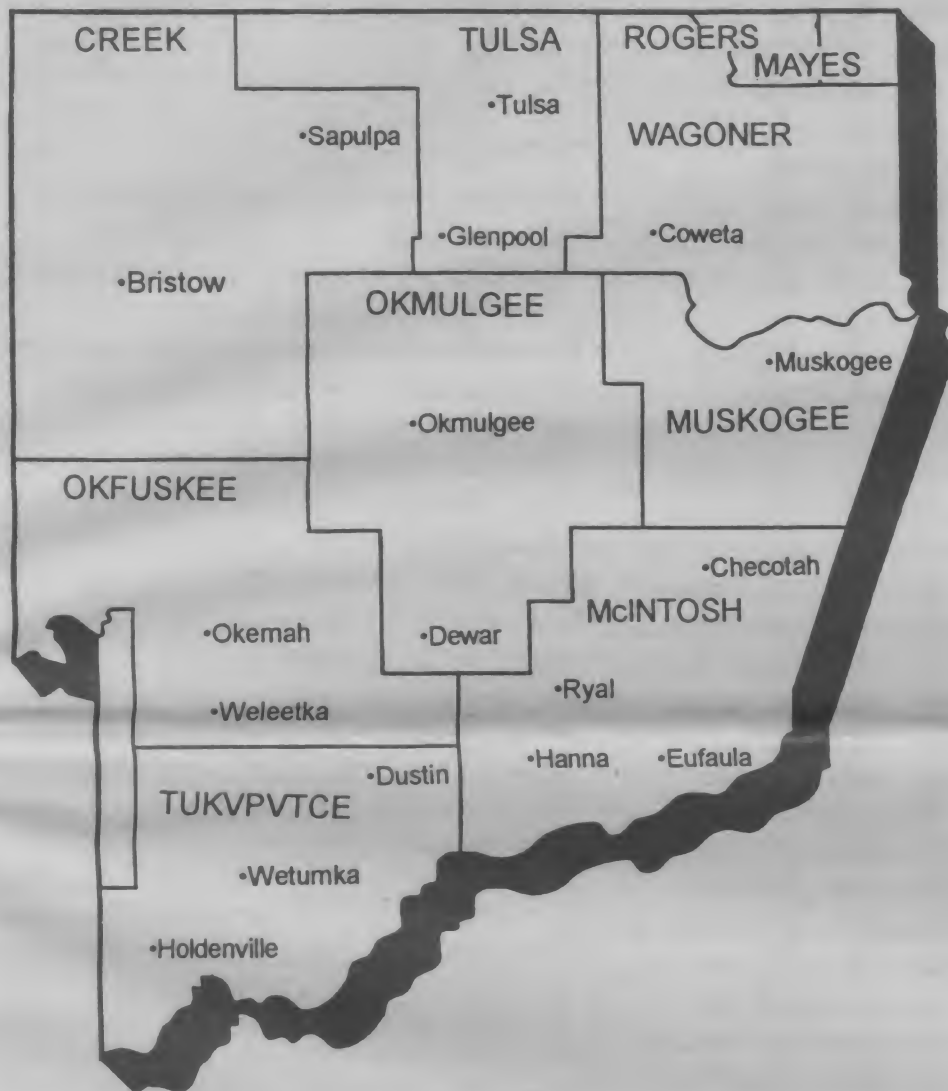
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October 1995, 20 Pages



Precinct locations

The following is a list of precinct locations. All polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Creek District

- Bristow Information Center, 710 S. Main
- Sapulpa Indian Community, 1030 E. Taft

McIntosh District

- Checotah Indian Community, 998 Maple
- Eufaula Indian Community Day Care Center, 702 Forrest Ave.
- Hanna Indian Community, 2 3/4 miles east of Hanna from highway 56 (Main Street)
- Ryal School, from the City of Henryetta's 10th and Main streets, drive south six miles, turn east on Artussee Road and drive three miles to the school

Muskogee District

- Muskogee Indian Community, 111 Virginia St.

Okfuskee District

- Okemah Indian Community, 1100 S. Division
- Weleetka School, 6th and Seneca

Okmulgee District

- Dewar Indian Community, 402 Luella St.

please see **PRECINCTS...**, page 2

Muscogee Election '95 Muscogee voters take to polls

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation voters will take to the polls Oct. 28 to begin shaping the tribe's future for the next four years when ballots are cast in the primary election.

Seven candidates are challenging Principal Chief Bill Fife in his bid for reelection. Five candidates are seeking the second chief position which is being vacated by Second Chief Shelly Crow, who is a candidate for chief.

Sixty-four others are seeking 26 seats on the National Council. The Council had its membership reduced from 36 as a result of the referendum passed earlier this year.

Candidates for chief are: Fife of Weleetka; Crow of Berryhill; Perry Beaver, Jenks; Clarence Cloud, Bristow; Sherryl Gonseth, Preston; Ralph Gray, Tulsa; Allen Harjo, Tulsa; and Thomas Yahola, Wetumka.

Candidates for second chief are: George Almerigi, Wilson; Perry Anderson, Eufaula; Kenneth Childers, Bixby; K.T. Fields, Weleetka; and Charley LaSarge, Okmulgee.

Complete profiles of the candidates for elected tribal offices begins on page four.

The following question will also be decided by voters:

Shall the proposed amendment be approved? Article VI, section 2(b) of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation be amended to read: "Each representative shall be a legal resident of his-her district for one full calendar year, prior to filing for office and shall be required to be an actual full-time resident within that district for the term of office. When the representative ceases to be an actual resident of the district they disqualify themselves as a representative of that district."

Council Oak Ceremony scheduled Spirit of ceremony rekindled

TULSA — A commemorative ceremony in honor of the Locvpoka people will begin at 11 a.m., Oct. 29 at Council Oak Park, 18th Street and South Cheyenne Avenue.

The ceremony commemorates the area first settled by the Loca Apokv, a branch of the Tulsa tribal group, after their removal from Alabama.

The event, last held in 1992, is being coordinated by Tulsa Mvskokvlke Community (formerly Tulsa Creek Indian Community).

Activities following the ceremony — a dinner of traditional foods, stomp dancing, and stickball games will be held at Veterans Park, 21st Street and Boulder Avenue, until 4 p.m.

Those attending are encouraged to wear traditional dress as well as bring lawn chairs — seating is limited

Letters to the editor

Citizen concerned about *The MNN*

Editor:

The "Notice to readers" block in the August '95 issue did not go unnoticed. Your "understaffed and lack funding" explanation should be of much concern to thousands of satisfied readers who think your newspaper expertise is second to none.

Hopefully, the National Council and Principal Chief Bill Fife will remedy this lack of funding and allow you to maintain your high quality publication.

We satisfied readers and supporters are appreciative of how you can have so much good information in such a few sheets. Maybe this letter to the editor will alert enough of our Creek citizens that we can somehow get some financial relief for you before it is too late. I happen to know that we can't afford to lose such a talented staff.

We continue to say — keep up the good work. Your readers appreciate you.

W.M. Knight, Oklahoma City

Citizen appreciates Okmulgee Clinic

Editor:

This letter is to let you know how I feel about the Okmulgee Clinic that opened recently — my thanks to the ones responsible for the clinic.

I had been going to the Sapulpa Clinic and decided to transfer because of having to drive in bad weather in the winter. Thank the Lord for leading me to this decision. Dr. David Rico saved my life by finding that I have congestive heart failure.

I can never find enough words to describe how indebted I am to Dr. Rico and the little blond nurse [Public Health Nurse Terri McElyea] who is kind and gentle to old-timers like me.

I highly commend them for any award or thanks due them for such good, faithful service.

Thank you.

Betty Greenhaw, Okmulgee

Chilocco alum looks for Creek cronies

Editor:

I am looking for classmates from Chilocco Boarding School — namely two: Lewis Wayne Harjo and Mary Jane Frye. If anyone knows the whereabouts of these two individuals, I would greatly appreciate to hear from them.

My address is: P.O. Box 394, White Swan, WA 98952.

Carol Wak Wak Lucei, White Swan, Wash.

Council rep dislikes delay

Editor:

My fellow Creek citizens and tribal officials: we have many problems and I would like to address one in particular. This problem concerns and affects us all. Corruption, greed, dishonesty, and fraud exists and is alive in many parts of our

nation.

The National Council is a body of law makers with no power to enforce. Enforcement is delegated to other tribal agencies. As we write and pass laws that affect and protect our people, regardless of how good they are, they are useless if they are not enforced. We continue to fund communities after money, records, and merchandise is funneled to benefit a few illegally. Records disappear, community property such as cigarettes, bookkeeping records, and anything of value is not accounted for. Since 1992, several hundred thousand dollars has disappeared and no one has been prosecuted for community crimes.

The attorney general's office has been notified along with lighthouse and the principal chief's office many times of this abuse but we are still waiting for action.

This month a community was given \$38,000 to reopen their center because everything had disappeared including records. They contacted the above offices and received no help. I personally authored a bill that was passed in 1992 to cover these situations and demanded prosecution within the full extent of the law. Another law that has not been enforced. All this money could and should be used for our programs to benefit all people. What do we have to do as a tribe to punish those who disobey our laws?

I urge all concerned citizens to rise up and demand accountability. These people who are lawbreakers are not the young people. They are moms and dads, aunts, uncles, and grandparents. Have we come so far in the last few generations to lose the honor, respect, and credibility that our forefathers and our ancestors possessed? The examples being set are having a profound effect on tomorrow's leaders — our children. I urge you to call or write your elected officials and state your opinion of today's situation. Let's bring honesty and true values back to our once proud Muscogee people.

I realize that I may get repercussions from many places for this open letter, but I work closely with the average citizens and they want someone to assure them that their voices are heard and not forgotten.

This does not reflect on all communities because some are doing an excellent job providing economic development and people oriented programs. To them, a pat on the back.

A.D. Ellis, Twin Hills

Editor's note: Ellis will begin his third term as an Okmulgee District representative. He was unopposed in this year's election.

Muscogee Nation Attorney General Marcella Giles responds.

The department of justice has had only one inquiry that related to IRS income withholding tax

questions. Neither the department nor lighthouse administration has received reports on crimes to be investigated.

The department does not have a backlog of cases or issues to be handled. Some of the cases may be in court but the majority of the cases are issues to be handled administratively. Our hope is to increase staff positions (now restrained by budget concerns) to accommodate legal services now expected by the nation.

Precincts

continued from page 1

• Okmulgee Indian Community, 2710 N. Miami
Tukvptce District

• Dustin Indian Community, two blocks north of junction of state highways 9 and 84

• Holdenville Indian Community, 416 E. Poplar St.

• Wetumka Indian Community, 608 N. Creek

Tulsa District

• Glenpool Indian Community, 13839 S. Casper

• Tulsa Indian Community Office, 6363 E. 31st St., Suite 105

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District

• Koweta Indian Community, 30903 E. 141st St., Coweta

Other dates include:

• Oct. 24 — primary election registration closes

• Oct. 28 — primary election

• Nov. 22 — general election registration closes

• Dec. 2 — general election

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

James Wolfe, managing editor
Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff

Meetings, events

Religion

Yeager Methodist schedules singing

YEAGER — Yeager United Methodist Church is holding a gospel singing at 7 p.m., Oct. 14.

The masters of ceremonies will be Berryhill's Quartet.

Concessions will be available.

From Holdenville, drive two miles east on U.S. Route 270 and six miles north on Yeager Road. After passing railroad tracks, turn east at the first road.

For more information, call (405) 379-3595.

Indian Fellowship Baptist to hold hog fry

OAKHURST — Indian Fellowship Baptist Church is holding a hog fry supper and gospel singing Oct. 21.

The hog fry will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. The gospel singing will begin at 7 p.m.

The church pastor is Rev. William Alexander. The master of ceremonies will be Herbert Willie.

The church is located at 6130 S. 58th W. Ave. — two blocks west of the Turner Turnpike gate.

Springfield schedules revival, fundraiser

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church members have scheduled a revival and fundraiser for October.

A church revival will be held Oct. 19 through 22 at 7 nightly. Supper will be served at 4 p.m., Oct. 21. Refreshments will be served nightly.

Church members have planned "Halloween Fun Night" for 5 p.m., Oct. 22 at the church. Various games will be played. An award will be given for best Halloween costume.

From Okemah, drive two miles south on state highway 27, four miles east, and one mile south.

Broken Arrow church to plans party

BROKEN ARROW — Broken Arrow Indian United Methodist Church is holding a Halloween party with a costume contest, spook house, wiener roast, and cake walk beginning at 7 p.m., Oct. 28.

Sponsored by the church's young adults, the proceeds will be used for the congregation's Christmas candy fund.

The church's annual harvest dinner will be from noon to 6 p.m., Nov. 4. The menu includes turkey and dressing, giblet gravy, green beans, dessert, and tea or coffee.

The cost is \$5 per plate and the event is sponsored by the BAIUMC Women.

Following dinner, a fellowship singing will begin. All groups, church choirs, etc., are invited. Participants are urged to eat dinner and stay for the singing.

All events will be held at the church located one mile east of the Tulsa County line and 141st Street or six miles west of Coweta off 141st Street.

Programs

Head Start announces food program

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start announces its participation in the child and adult care food program.

All participants in attendance will be offered the same meals at no separate charge and with no physical segregation of, or other discrimination against any participant because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. It is an equal opportunity program.

Individuals that believe they have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability may write to: Oklahoma State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs, 2500 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4599

Intertribal

Human rights committee holds fall series

TULSA — The committee on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples of Tulsa Metropolitan Ministry has been sponsoring a fall series of lectures.

Its next two series are:

- "Historical Patterns of Conquest," series speaker, Richard Grounds, Yuchi, assistant professor of religion and anthropology, University of Tulsa, TU, Sharp Chapel Lounge, 7 p.m., Nov. 14; and
- "Environmental Conquest II," series speaker, Jackie Warledo, Seminole, Oklahoma Regional Indigenous Environmental Network, Tulsa United Indian Methodist Church, 1911 N. College, 7 p.m., Dec. 11.

For more information, call: (918) 582-3147.

Intertribal cultural society formed

NORMAN — The American Indian Cultural Society is a nonprofit, intertribal organization dedicated to the preservation of American Indian heritage and culture.

The society meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Tribes Gallery, 307 E. Main St. Membership is open with annual dues of \$12. Members of the group participate in powwows, gourd dances, lectures, demonstrations, and community activities. For more information, call (405) 321-8070, evenings.

Summit on substance abuse to be held

ALBUQUERQUE — A National Native American Summit on Substance Abuse Prevention will be held Oct. 16 through 18.

The meeting of national leaders, Native spiritual leaders, and grassroots citizens is a cooperative effort of The National Association for Native American Children of Alcoholics, the National Congress of American Indians, the National Indian Health Board, the American Indian Health Care Association, and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.

For more information, contact: Anna Latimer, NANACOA executive director, 1402 Third Ave., Suite 110, Seattle, WA 98102; or call (206) 467-7686.

Veterans

Tribe slates veterans' program

OKMULGEE — A Veterans Day program will be held from 10 a.m. to noon, Nov. 10 to honor Muscogee and other Indian veterans.

A special tribute will be made to World War II veterans.

Programs coordinators encourage Indian veterans that did not participate in the 1994 program to submit their: name; address; branch of military; rank; list war[s] of combat duty or peacetime designation; and honors received.

The information may be sent to Valeria Littlecreek by Nov. 1 at: Division of Human Development, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Citizens to organize veterans group

OKMULGEE — Muscogee citizens are surveying readers in a preliminary assessment of tribal members who are U.S. military veterans. Veterans may have served in peace time or have combat duty.

The following information is being requested:

- name;
- address;
- branch of service;
- rate-rank at time of discharge;
- degree of Creek blood;
- special awards, honors, citations, medals, or other significant facts; and
- membership in veterans' organizations.

This information will be used to devise agendas to recognize and honor Muscogee (Creek) veterans, said Jorene Coker, a U.S. Navy WAVES veteran and organizer.

Other organizers are Phillip Coon, U.S. Army, and Charlie Coker, U.S.A.A.F.

Submit information to Jorene Coker at: P.O. Box 157, Preston, OK 74456.

Sports

All-Indian bowling tourney

TULSA — The Indian Nations Bowling Tournament will be held Oct. 28 and 29 at Riverlanes Bowling Center.

For more information, contact Anna King at: (918) 437-5953; or Stella Harjo at: (918) 664-9384.

Information

Change of address

OKMULGEE — Readers of *The Muscogee Nation News* are reminded to keep their addresses current.

The MNN is mailed third class and the U.S. Postal Service does not forward third class mail.

Send your changes to the department at: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Please include individual tribal enrollment number with correspondence.

Muscogee Election '95

The next 14 pages contain information on all the candidates for Muscogee Nation Principal Chief, Second Chief, and National Council. All candidates were afforded the opportunity to have their photograph taken or submit a photograph as well as provide personal and political information. Some chose not to use this opportunity and it is reflected in the following pages. All submissions were edited for clarity, style, consistency, and fit. The Muscogee Nation News endorses no one candidate for any tribal office.

Candidate filings

Principal Chief (age and hometown)

• Bill Fife, 53, Weleetka (i); Perry Beaver, 56, Jenks; Clarence Cloud, 75, Bristow; Shelly Crow, 47, Tulsa; Sherryl Gonseth, 41, Preston; Ralph Gray, 42, Tulsa; Allen Harjo, 60, Tulsa; Thomas Yahola, 56, Wetumka

Second Chief

• George Almerigi, 61, Henreytta; Perry Anderson, 62, Eufaula; Kenneth Childers, 55, Bixby; K.T. Fields, 43, Weleetka; Charley LaSarge, 42, Okmulgee

National Council

Creek District

Seat A: Earl Wheeler (i), Solomon Hill; **Seat B:** Duke Harjo (i), George Tiger; **Seat C:** Phyllis Warrington (i) unopposed

McIntosh District

Seat A: Tommy Pickering (i), Carrie Williams; **Seat B:** Wilbur Gouge (i), Barbara Fogle; **Seat C:** Yahola Townsend (i), Thomas McIntosh (i) [The district lost two seats as a result of referendum. Rep. Sandy McIntosh declined to run.]

Muscogee District

Seat A: Helen Chupco (i), Joseph Coachman; **Seat B:** Frances Pease (i), Leonard Gouge, Harley Little

Okfuskee District

Seat A: Mae Jackson (i), Gary Mitchell, Nancy Watson, Billy Williams; **Seat B:** Bruce Smith (i), Wynema Roberts (i) [The district lost one seat as a result of referendum.], Bobby Harjo; **Seat C:** Clyde Johnson (i), Simmer Hicks

Okmulgee District

Seat A: David Lewis (i), Peggy Lyda (i) [The district lost two seats as a result of referendum. Rep. Jim Harjo declined to run.], Betty Gray, Woodrow Lee; **Seat B:** Anderson Hale (i), Gary Berryhill, July Tecumseh; **Seat C:** Charlie Litsey (i), Abe McIntosh; **Seat D:** A.D. Ellis (i), unopposed; **Seat E:** David Nichols (i), Thomas Berryhill, Patsy Wahnee

Tukvptce District

Seat A: Dwayne Lowe (i), James McGirt; **Seat B:** Tim Fife (i), L.C. Franks, Edwin Marshall; **Seat C:** Darrell Coachman (i), Johnson Buck

Tulsa District

Seat A: Larry Bible (i), Teddy McHenry, Richard Wilde; **Seat B:** Irene Cleghorn (i), Earl King (i) [The district lost two seats as a result of the referendum. Rep. Beaver is a chief candidate.]; **Seat C:** Ed Moore (i), Stan McGilbray, Carol Morris, Okema Randall, Ron Cleghorn; **Seat D:** Steve Bruner (i), Faren Bunny, Jerry Wilson; **Seat E:** Jesse Kelley (i), Earl Kelly

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District

Seat A: Richard Berryhill (i), Thurston Primeaux; **Seat B:** Barbara Gillespie (i), Marie Crittenden

Chief candidates

Name: Robert Perry Beaver
Age: 56
Residence: Jenks
Family: spouse, Mariam; four children
Parents: the late John and Della Fox Beaver; paternal grandparents, Harry and Miley Alexander; maternal grandparents, Willie and Cora Alexander Fox
Clan: Deer

Church: Big Cussetah United Methodist Church

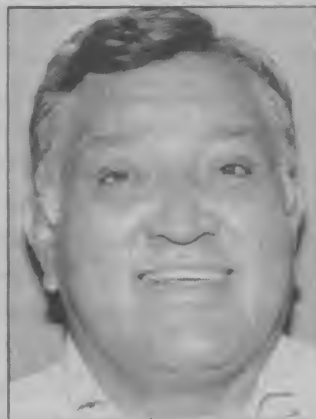
Tribal town: Weogufkee

Political, professional experience:

bachelor's degree, University of Central Oklahoma; master's degree, Northeastern State University; six yrs., Muscogee Nation Second Chief; two terms, National Council representative; current chair, Council business and governmental operations committee; Oklahoma Coaches Hall of Fame; three time winner, Coach of the Year; retired educator; former director, Indian education, Jenks

Reason for seeking office: The Creek Nation must take a positive approach in preparing for the 21st century. I believe, all branches of the Creek Nation government must unite so maximum benefits can be brought to the Creek people. Areas of concern that I'll be concentrating on are: education; health; sovereignty; preservation of traditions and culture; and economic development.

Education is the key in preparing for the 21st century. I will expand the education services, therefore making education opportunities readily accessible for our Creek citizens. We must continue forging the tools of our tribal members to use in attaining an education or a marketable skill. The fight for sovereignty must continue in an organized and united effort from all branches of Creek government.



Name: Clarence Cloud
Age: 75
Residence: Bristow
Political, professional experience: former Muscogee Nation Supreme Court justice; former tribal housing authority board member; former Speaker, National Council; former National Council district

representative; chair, Muskogee Indian Credit Association; chair, Creek Nation 4-H Club; vice chair, Creek Nation Rodeo Club; retired electrician; past president and executive board member, IBEW Local 584

Reason for seeking office: Experience can and will make the difference. I'm young enough to do the job and old enough to know how.



Muscogee Election '95 ☒**Name:** Shelly Stubbs Crow**Age:** 47**Residence:** Berryhill**Family:** husband, John; daughter, Leslie; son, the late John Crow IV**Parents:** Doretha Beaver Stubbs Vincent and the late Everett Stubbs; maternal grandparents, the late Joe and Gretchen Beaver**Clan:** Raccoon**Church:** Baptist**Tribal town:** Tukvptce**Political, professional experience:** current Second Chief, Muscogee Nation; former chair, tribal health systems board; nursing instructor, Tulsa University; twenty-plus years registered nurse; member, Indian Health Service Oklahoma Area Health Board and the Claremore Service Unit Health Advisory Board; bachelor's degree, Northeastern State University; master's degree, University of Oklahoma, both in nursing**Reason for seeking office:** My strong belief in the importance of a shared vision, a common purpose, and the need to restore leadership to the Nation. I feel it is important for our culture and traditions to serve as the foundation for all of our tribal programs. My goal as your principal chief is to restore unity and provide effective, culturally-sensitive leadership to our tribal government and programs.

I will see to it that care and compassion are returned to the Creek Nation Health Care System as well as other tribal programs. I also see the need for nursing homes in our various communities to care for our elderly. I plan to establish a department of aging to specifically to assess and meet the needs of this precious resource.

Educational and vocational training programs must be refocused to recognize the real needs in the workplace. Preparing people for jobs that do not exist with skills that are not needed is not progress but a formula for failure.

Our communities must be given the opportunity to take the lead in economic development. The tribe's record in business ventures is dismal and has proven to be a poor strategy. The health system is again in poor condition. Early in Fife's administration, responsibility for the system was returned to the Chief at his request. This did not work and the National Council then placed responsibility with Ed Mouss, Fife's brother-in-law. Unfortunately, Mouss had no previous experience in the financial and operational management of a health care system and the health system has suffered as a result.

As Principal Chief, I will propose to the Council that oversight of the health system be returned to an independent board that is community-oriented and in-tune with people's needs. The key to having a successful health system is to isolate the system from tribal politics. Personal greed and the desire for political gain have no place in tribal government or in the operation of a caring and compassionate health care system.

**Name:** Bill S. Fife**Age:** 53**Residence:** Weleetka**Family:** wife, Mary; son, Jeff; daughter, Cinda Reeves; one grandson**Parents:** the late James and Carmen Griffin Fife**Clan:** Raccoon**Church:** Thlewarle Baptist Church**Tribal Town:** Tukvptce**Political, professional experience:** four yrs., Principal Chief, Muscogee Nation; U.S. Army Vietnam veteran; 10 yrs., tribal management; three yrs., National Council representative; Presidential Task Force to reorganize BIA; vice-chair, United Indian Nations of Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas; chair, Bacone Board of Trustees; vice-president, Five Tribes Intertribal Council**Reason for seeking office:** I want to implement new economic development programs relating to new technology, expand health services, decentralize services to all eight districts, and preserve and promote Creek culture. In addition, I will continue to defend our tribal sovereignty and protect human rights. I intend to advocate national policy that affects Creek citizens. I will also upgrade facilities and expand our land base. I will also promote youth leadership and more services for the elderly. As Principal Chief I want to offer you a continuum of progress for the next four years.

This administration has significantly accomplished an expansion of services in all areas of housing, education, health, and community development.

Among my accomplishments:

- the tribe has received housing grants in excess of \$20 million for the rehabilitation of mutual help homes;
- assisted more than 1,000 Muscogee students with financial assistance for higher education through tribal scholarships and another 10,000 students in public schools as well as individuals participating in the adult education programs for general equivalency diploma services or vocational training.
- the health administration opened a new facility. The tribe also operates an elderly nutrition program, a community health service representative program and a new women, infants, and children (WIC) program.
- the tribe completed construction of the center for human development and was successful in getting funds for a community service center and four local community centers.

A large number of supporters want me to continue the public agenda proposed in my first campaign. This means involvement of Creek citizens in tribal government, new economic opportunities, better customer driven services, and building a national reputation as a progressive Indian nation.

**Name:** Sherryl Hardin Gonseth**Age:****Residence:** Preston**Family:** husband, Clarence; daughter, Carla Grammer; son, Eric.**Parents:** Gerald and Carmelita Hardin; grandmother, Mary Deer Hardin**Clan:** Wind**Tribal Town:** Nuyaka**Experience:** Creek Nation Head Startprogram director; president, Oklahoma Indian Head Start Director's Association; president, Preston JOM Parent Committee; associate's degree in child development; serves on federal monitoring team for administrative audits
Reason for seeking office: As Head Start director for nine years, I have seen and worked under two administrations and, being committed to serve our families, I have made some adversaries. I have always and will continue to stand up for the rights of our families.

We must stop fighting over power and authority and take responsibility for our actions. We must remember power has always belonged to the people.

I want to develop networking within the communities to provide for: client centered programs; home health care for the elderly; youth individual and group and family counseling services; and educational programs that fit people's needs.

Through networking, we will have community development, rather than ill-advised decision making. The current method of decision making has resulted in ineffective use of resources and failure to take advantages of opportunities by not having the input of our people. We must use our resources and gear ourselves toward the identified needs and remember resources don't develop themselves, they must have a purpose for existing. We can stop the confusion and inability to make decisions. We must have better internal control and accountability. We must streamline the administration and stop the endless paper trail. We can bring viable leadership to the tribe.

I believe that a goal without a deadline is only a wish. You now have a chance to vote for affirmative action, a chance to restore integrity to our leadership, and a chance to improve the future of our children and their children.



Muscogee Election '95 ✓**Name:** Ralph Gray**Age:** 42**Residence:** Tulsa**Family:** single parent; five children**Parents:** Robert Gray and Allene Criner**Clan:** Deer**Church:** Opportunity Heights Baptist Church**Tribal Town:** Tulsa Little River, adopted member, Arbeka**Political, professional experience:** lead supervisor, Dover Corp.; lead supervisor, Upco Inc.; child care warrantor, Muscogee Nation**Reason for seeking office:** I decided to seek office to offer the citizens of the tribe a different leadership style and to explore business opportunities that might bring new revenue into the Muscogee Nation. Additionally, I want to develop programs for the youth, encourage more tribal citizens to pursue higher education opportunities, and look for ways to generate educational programs for Creek communities. Also, I want to promote the preservation of the Creek culture and promote pride in our tribe. I also want to bring a common sense approach to managing the resources of the tribe. We need to make people the priority and budget resources according to their needs. The purpose of tribal government is to serve the people and we need to make sure that all government entities of the tribe are responsive to the needs of our citizens.**Name:** Allen Harjo**Age:** 60**Residence:** Tulsa**Political, professional experience:** accountant; former administrator, Creek Nation Community Hospital; current administrator, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town; fluent Mvskoke speaker**Reason for seeking office:** I am prepared to provide the tribe with new leadership with quality and experience. I am prepared to design a computerized accounting system that will provide the tribe with a better management over its budget matters. The present chief has been deficient in providing good, strong leadership in tribal administration, health administration, and our housing.

The health administration has been diverted into a brother-in-law operation and is wasteful and unresponsive to Creek needs.

Our housing administration is so warped that the neediest remain unassisted while the favorites are assisted first. The chief delegated the authority to some wrong individuals and has failed to take corrective action. Our tribal support staff and employees do not receive the respect they deserve.

There has been poor representation and lack of a definitive position regarding the reorganization and downsizing of the BIA. Tribal members as well as future generations of Creeks will be affected by the restructuring of the BIA. The individual Creeks are being affected by the trust relations with the federal government.

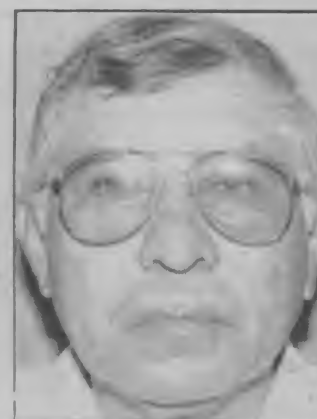
The Principal Chief needs to demonstrate leadership in the best interest of all Creeks as individuals in their communities, tribal activities, and to be more responsive to tribal youth and the elder. I am prepared to demonstrate leadership that I believe will be an honorable example.

**Name:** Thomas Yahola**Age:** 56**Residence:** Wetumka**Family:** Phyllis; eight children**Parents:** the late Lyman and Bertha Yahola**Clan:** Deer**Church:** Montesoma Baptist Church**Tribal Town:** Tallahassee**Political, professional experience:** Speaker, National Council; two term, National Council representative; former chair, tribal citizenship board; 1994 Army Corps of Engineers employee of the year; commander's award, civil service; U.S. Army veteran; bachelor's degree retired civil service; fluent in Creek**Reason for seeking office:** My desire is to serve you and our nation with integrity and with positive endeavors. I will work closely with others to promote self-efficiency and restore pride through a commitment of service and hard work.

I will return to accountability in my administration. My work as Chief will be an open book for all to read. I will treat all citizens — even those who disagree with me — with respect as the citizens of this tribe are the very reason the government exists.

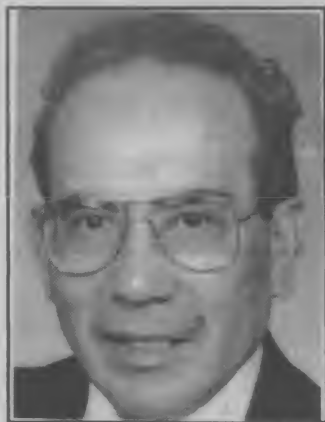
I also want to develop and accomplish the following: acquire more land and expand our base; promote high tech training opportunities for veterans and the unskilled; establish a home for our elders to spend their remaining years among us and without fear; evaluate all programs — improve some and eliminate others; include tribal employees when forming policies and salary ranges; and develop programs for youth and elders.

With my business experience, education, and leadership abilities all ingrained with traditional Mvskoke values — compassion, honesty, wisdom — and with the help of our Creator, we can take this nation into the 21st century with renewed pride and spirit.



Muscogee Election '95 ☒

Second Chief candidates



Name: George Almerigi
Age: 61
Residence: Wilson
Political, professional experience: attorney, Muscogee Nation; three-time National Council representative; past president, Wilson Indian Community; payroll supervisor; manager, programmer analyst and MIS; Korean War veteran; U.S. Air Force veteran; current assistant attorney general, Muscogee Nation
Reason for seeking office: I am the best qualified candidate based on my experience in tribal government and private industry as well as my education and training as a lawyer. I believe my age, experience, and concern for the Muscogee people and my desire to shape a better government for the nation, make me the best qualified candidate. I will assist the principal chief by promoting unity, carrying out special projects as requested; serving as a liaison to the Council and other organizations, and provide advice and counsel on operations of the administration and policy formation



Name: Perry Anderson
Age: 62
Residence: Eufaula
Family: wife Ina; daughter Sheril; sons, Greg and Bruce; four grandchildren
Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Perry D. Anderson
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Baptist
Tribal town: Thlopthlocco
Political, professional experience: none
Reason for seeking office: I would work with the entire Muscogee (Creek) Nation and be in communication with all communities, churches, and ceremonial grounds. I would work to bring a unified government by promoting cooperation with all three branches of government. I would provide leadership, be accountable to all citizens and listen to problems and concerns and respond by assisting or directing them to the offices of responsibility. I feel confident I can be of great service to all tribal citizens and if elected I will carry out the duties in accordance with the Muscogee Nation constitution.



Name: Kenneth Childers
Age: 55
Residence: Bixby
Family: wife, Billie; children
Parents: Mose Childers and Violet Williams Freeman Childers
Clan: Sweet potato
Tribal town: Locvpoka
Political, professional experience: veteran, U.S. Navy; Indian education director, Coweta Public Schools; current chair, Creek Nation Housing Authority Board; former five-term National Council representative; former four-term Speaker; former cochair, gaming operations authority board
Reason for seeking office: I am seeking election to the office based on my extensive experience in tribal affairs and my sincere concern for the nation and people. I know that I can make a valuable contribution if elected to this office. I served ten years on the Council — eight as Speaker and two as Second Speaker. During that time I missed only one regular Council meeting. I served two and one-half years as cochair of the gaming board and four years as chair of the housing authority board. I am a Vietnam veteran and have been employed with Coweta Public Schools for 19 years. I believe turbulent times lie ahead and the tribe will need experienced and dedicated leaders to guide our nation. I have always believed in equality and opportunity for all Creek citizens. I offer strong, positive leadership that will bring unity to our government and our people.



Name: K.T. "Hutke" Fields
Age: 43
Residence: Weleetka
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Political, professional experience: master's degree, social work and planning, University of Oklahoma; provided training and technical assistance to Indian tribes regarding social work; offer training to 228 tribal elderly nutrition programs; Three Feathers Associates; chair, Oklahoma Inter-agency Child Abuse Prevention Task Force; member, advisory board, National Resource Center on Child Sexual Abuse; former manager, children and family services
Reason for seeking office: I want to speak, work with, and serve the citizens of the Muscogee Nation in all areas of well known concern. I will meet with anyone who wished to voice concern or whom-ever has workable ideas for the next administration. I am the best qualified candidate and will keep working directly with the people throughout my tenure in office.



Name: Charley LaSarge
Age: 42
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: wife, Della; four children;
Parents: Burban Jerome and Lucy Marie McIntosh LaSarge
Church: Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church
Tribal town: Tulsa Canadian
Political, professional experience: 10 yrs., manager, food distribution program; president, Oklahoma-New Mexico Food Action Committee for tribes; member, Office of Native American Programs Regional Advisory Council; national advisory council for Indian food distribution; first vice-president, National Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations
Reason for seeking office: I have enjoyed working for and with the Creek Nation the past 10 years. I have a concern for the direction the nation will need to pursue in the future. I feel confident that I possess the experience, knowledge, and ability to benefit the nation. Health, youth involvement, elderly programs, education, and economic development are areas I have targeted for enhancement and tribal driven strategies. I will maintain and strive for good working relationships with all branches of our tribal government, staff, ceremonial grounds, churches, community centers, and citizens. I will very much appreciate your support.

Muscogee Election '95

Creek District Seat A
Name: Soloman Hill
Age: 35
Residence: Bristow
Family: wife, Sharon; children, Beverly, Sabrina, Sarah, Tamara, Jessica, Melinda, Heidi, and Cody
Parents: Jo Ann Hill
Clan: Beaver
Church: Gypsy Baptist Church
Tribal Town: New Tulsa



Experience: Indian education committee; vice chair, JOM, Title V-C; former chairman, JOM and Title V-C
Reason for seeking office: To serve the Muscogee Indians and communities of the Creek District. I will support any proposed bill concerning the health and welfare of our citizens. Our youth and elderly Indians are my top priority. If elected I will do my very best.

Creek District Seat B
Name: Duke Harjo
Age: 53
Residence: Sapulpa
Family: wife, Sue Moore Harjo; son, Jim B. of Glenpool; daughter, Laura Harjo of Lawrence, Kan.; five granddaughters
Parents: the late Jim Busey Harjo Sr. and the late Lena Wind Harjo
Clan: Bear



Church: High Spring Baptist Church
Tribal Town: Alabama-Quarsarte
Experience: chair, five yrs., Alabama-Quarsarte Tribal Town Governing Committee; three and one-half yrs., tribal town chief; two-year Creek District representative; six yrs., chief of law enforcement and security (lighthorse administration); committee member, National Council business and governmental operations, land acquisition, tobacco warehouse, facilities acquisition, and economic development task force

Reason for seeking office: I am seeking reelection so I may continue being a productive Creek District representative. During my first term as representative I sponsored the bill that appropriated funds to build a community center for Sapulpa and three other communities. With the experience I've acquired since being elected representative and, with your support, I can be even more productive during the next two years. This experience will prove beneficial when facing funding cuts for tribal programs and services. I bring experience and dedication at your service.

McIntosh District Seat A
Name: Tommy Pickering
Age: 39
Residence: Eufaula
Family: wife, Judith; sons, Sheridan and Judd
Parents: James A. and Edna R. Burgess Pickering
Clan: Sweet Potato
Church: West Eufaula Baptist Church
Tribal Town: Hitchita



Experience: two-term McIntosh District representative

Reason for seeking office: Being involved in the affairs of Creek people for many years, I've been asked by many citizens to run again for Council representative. I have travelled to each chartered community to inform and listen to their concerns. I have received letters and phone calls from citizens outside the tribal boundaries. I've written and introduced bills in the Council concerning the most important items in McIntosh District including: getting qualified doctors for our clinics and medications; economic development for communities; help for our growing; and a bill to acquire Hillabee ceremonial ground for our people. Your vote is appreciated.

Creek District Seat A
Name: Earl Wheeler
Age: 41
Residence: Bristow
Family: daughter, Kimberly; sons, Kevin, Jeremiah, Madison
Parents: Alice and Roy Wheeler; grandparents, Wysena Madison Bucktrot, Daye Sah Co Conthany Annie Brown Bucktrot
Clan: Deer
Church: Mutteloke United Methodist



Tribal Town, Ground: Sand Creek, Iron Post
Experience: Bristow community chair, six yrs.; JOM, Title V-C committees; lay speaker, House of Warriors; lobbying; tribal affairs, human development, and community services committees; owned and operated businesses
Reason for seeking office: My eight years experience on the National Council will be vital to your interests when working for funding levels to meet the needs of you and your family. I began working for the Creek and Euchee families at age 25. A great deal has been accomplished since that time, but I would like to see even more improvements for our families and tribe. With your vote and support, I'll continue to work for a better future.

Creek District Seat B
Name: George Tiger
Age: 45
Residence: Sapulpa
Family: wife, Theresa; children, Chebon, Mike, Gina, Greg, Robert, and Chris
Parents: the late Rev. Coody and Lela McNac Tiger
Clan: Wind
Church: Yardeka Indian Baptist Church
Tribal Town: Hickory Ground



Experience: former National Council representative (1991-92); past vice chair, United Indian Nations of Okla.; past president, Haskell Indian Nations Univ. Board of Regents; former host, Native America Calling radio program; current host and producer, Inside Native America; public relations coordinator, 1994 Clinton-tribal leaders summit; consultant, various tribes and organizations

Reason for seeking office: I feel the Council is the heart of the Muscogee Nation government and should aggressively pursue economic development that will provide jobs and income to the Muscogee people. The day of receiving federal funds is nearing the end. Bingo income is being targeted for an end as well by Congress. Smokeshops are sharing their income with Oklahoma. Tribal revenues are dwindling and we must do something to continue our quest in providing services as a tribal government. Current services need to be improved. Petty politics must be set aside and work in unity to improve the situation at hand. I pledge to work hard in representing tribal members in the Creek District and ask for your support.

McIntosh District Seat A
Name: Carrie Williams
Age: 50
Residence: Stidham
Family: husband, Danny Williams; daughters, Dana, Cara, and Lindsey
Parents: the late Rev. Adam Jones Sr. and Hattie Morrison Jones
Clan: Bear



Church: Little Coweta Baptist Church
Tribal Town: Coweta

Experience: bachelor of science, education, East Central University; educator for 25 years
Reason for seeking office: I am deeply concerned about our tribal government and the direction that it will be forced to take in the future. This is a time when our tribal leaders and Creek people need to work together to preserve the programs that we have enjoyed the past 20 years. These programs were not always here and they are being threatened by Congress. As an educator, I'm going to be working to keep Indian education programs intact for our Indian children. I would also like to help our Indian people keep the programs they are utilizing at this time. As your representative I will work with the same diligence to serve the people in McIntosh District by promoting accurate information, introducing legislation, and casting my vote for the betterment of the tribe.

Muscogee Election '95

McIntosh District Seat B

Name: Barbara Kaler
Fogle

Age: 45

Residence: Hanna

Family: Rance and
Robyn; married to the
late Robert Fogle

Parents: Claude W.
and Nancy Albert Kaler

Clan: Wind

Church: Arbeka Bap-
tist Church

Tribal

Town:

Tukvptce

Experience: Hanna school board; past chair, Hanna
Indian Community

Reason for seeking office: My platform is: in-
creased funding for education for our children; eco-
nomic development projects that increase job op-
portunities for Muscogee citizens; increased health
care for Muscogee citizens; implementation of a
nursing care system for our elderly tribal citizens
including the construction of nursing care homes for
our elderly citizens; increased funding from tribal
funds for school clothing and improvements to tribal
member's homes; creation of a tribally-operated busi-
ness development center to assist Muscogee citi-
zen-owned businesses in acquiring governmental
loans and contracts at local, tribal, state, and fed-
eral levels. I ask for your support in reaching these
objectives.



McIntosh District Seat C

Name: Thomas McIn-
tosh

Age: 72

Residence: Stidham

Family: wife, Neoma;
three sons; two daugh-
ters; 16 grandchildren;
and two great-grand-
children

Parents: the late Rev.
Thomas and Susan
McIntosh

Clan: Bear

Church: Big Arbor Baptist

Tribal Town: Coweta

Experience: National Council representative

Reason for seeking office: To serve my people.
Since the McIntosh District National Council repre-
sentatives were reduced, I filed for my brother's seat
(Sandy McIntosh) which is open. I now serve on the
tribal affairs committee, Creek Nation Housing Au-
thority Board of Commissioners, and the fact finding
committee. I will appreciate your vote and support.



Muscogee District Seat A

Name: Helen Chupco

Age: 76

Residence:
Muscogee

Family: husband,
Rev. Lee Chupco;
son, James Chupco;
daughter, Waukomis
Lewis

Parents: the late Rev.
Billie and Bessie
Palmer

Clan: Sweet Potato

Church: Methodist church

Tribal Town: Tukvptce

Experience: eight-term district representative;
Council business and governmental operations com-
mittee; chair six yrs., community services com-
mittee; nine yrs., tribal town representative (appointed
Council); 28 yrs., tribal representative; Claremore
IHS advisory board; 14 yrs., secretary; board of di-
rectors, Eastern Oklahoma Development District;
experience in federal and state program funding and
community development; member, economic devel-
opment task force

Reason for seeking office: To continue assisting-
working for Creek citizens in which I am presently
doing practically 24 hours a day. To help maintain
and strengthen our tribal sovereignty. To help fur-
ther economic development program plans. To have
a better working relationship between legislative and
executive branch.



McIntosh District Seat B

Name: Wilbur Chebon
Gouge

Age: 44

Residence: Eufaula

Family: wife, Cheryl;
son, Rayburn

Parents: the late Albert
A. and Sallie Spainard
Gouge

Clan: Eco

Church:

Tribal

Town:

Weogufkee

Experience: two-year McIntosh District represen-
tative

Reason for seeking office: My past experience on
the Council has taught me that you cannot target
one area of the government to solve the current prob-
lems of our Nation today. I would like to have the
opportunity to be part of a Council that is decisive
and involved in long range planning so that future
generations of Muscogee Creek citizens can and will
and enjoy more of the same freedoms and privileges
that are afforded to us today, in areas of health, edu-
cation, housing, welfare, and economic development.



McIntosh District Seat C

Name: Yahola
Townsend

Age: 71

Residence: Checotah

Family: wife, Betty;
sons, Terry and Kelly;
daughters, Vicki McIn-
tosh and Becki
McCutchen

Parents: Marshall and
Jeanetta McIntosh
Townsend

Clan: Bear

Church: Baptist

Tribal Town: Tuskegee

Experience: one-term National Council representa-
tive

Reason for seeking office: I would like to stress
my commitment to this position and the Muscogee
Nation. It is my sincere desire to make a meaningful
contribution to the continued growth and development
of the Muscogee Nation as I serve as your represen-
tative to the National Council. Most of you across
the county know me to be honest, sincere, and al-
ways willing to listen and help where I can. I seek
this position for a second term to serve you as we
face the new year with the most significant cut ever
in federal dollars for Indian tribes.



Muscogee District Seat A

Name: Joseph
Coachman

Age: 40

Residence:
Muscogee

Family: daughters,
Cheron Shoemake
and Shannon
Macias

Parents: the late Rev.
Ward and Sallie
Samie Coachman

Clan: Bear

Church: Sand Springs Baptist Church, Braggs

Tribal Town: Kialege

Experience: more than seven yrs., business de-
velopment, 15 yrs., data processing

Reason for seeking office: To represent the
Muscogee District in such a way as to get involve-
ment from the young people as well as the elderly.
I want to assist the tribe in reaching self-sufficiency
by exercising our sovereign rights and to diversify
our economic interests so the Muscogee Nation is
not reliant on so much federal dollars. I feel if we
have a united National Council, the Muscogee Na-
tion can accomplish great things. I feel I could work
with our representatives to reach common goals.
Only with a timely solution to these problems will
be able to extend services to our qualified citizens
who are in dire need. With my past experience and
I hope, with your support, to be able to accomplish
these goals.



Muscogee Election '95

**Muscogee District
Seat B**
Name: Leonard
Gouge
Age: 34
Residence:
Muscogee
Family: wife, Johnna
Deer Gouge
Parents: Felix and
Minnie Gouge
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: New
Tulsa



Experience: Cherokee Nation paralegal for tribal Indian Child Welfare; Creek Nation Indian Child Welfare; Creek Nation special needs adoption; Seminole Nation paralegal; Oklahoma Indian Legal Services; U.S. Army; Army reserves drill sergeant; Oklahoma Indian Bar Association; Oklahoma City Mayor's Indian Task Force Committee; past member, Oklahoma City Muscogee Creek Association; past member, Muscogee Koweta Indian Community; Oklahoma Jr. College graduate
Reason for seeking office: Having been an absentee voter, I know the feeling of not having your voice heard or considered. I think the same is felt here in the Muscogee District. I believe a Council representative should be exactly that — a representative of your interests, concerns, your voice in the National Council. In my past experience, I've always had to make hard decisions and stand accountable for my words and actions before employers, families, tribal, and state courts. As your representative, I can do the same with the issues that come before the National Council for the Muscogee citizens and Muscogee District.

**Muscogee District
Seat B**
Name: Frances Pease
Age: 66
Residence:
Muscogee
Family: husband,
Jody; son, Ronald;
grandsons, Jody and
John
Parents: deceased
Clan: Raccoon
Church: First Baptist
Church, Muskogee;
Grave Creek Baptist
Church



Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Experience: master's degree, education; 31 yrs., teaching; Muskogee Education Assoc.; Okla. Education Assoc.; political action group; OEA delegate; precinct delegate, Democratic party; education lobbyist; calling committee for state offices; tutored Indian students; JOM summer teacher, chair, vice chair, and member Indian education parent committee; chair and vice chair, Muskogee Indian Community
Reason for seeking office: I feel that I have more knowledge and experience in tribal government and with this knowledge and experience I will be more prepared to assist Creek citizens, if they will inform me of their needs, no matter what the need might be. I feel I have the qualifications for being a part of Creek Nation and supporting the issues facing our Nation as a whole. I want to be part of the Muscogee Indian Community and present legislation to the members and get their input on all issues so their voice will be heard and they will be involved with their government. As a representative, I can be the bridge from community to the Creek Nation.

**Okfuskee District
Seat A**
Name: Gary Mitchell
Age: 53
Residence: Okemah
Family: married
Parents: Mabel Walker
Simmons and the late
Martin Mitchell Sr.
Clan: Nokose
Church: Trenton Baptist
Church
Tribal Town: Pukkon
Tallahassee



Experience: degree in cable installation technician; inventory clerk specialist; sergeant-at-arms, Tribal Town Center; self-employed; speak and understand Creek language; veteran

Reason for seeking office: I'm seeking this office because we need a new trend and action for our Indian children. We need to put our children first because they are our future. I want them to be able to get a good education. I want for our elderly to be helped and for the shut-ins without transportation to be assisted. I have been inspired by Toney Hill and other tribal town leaders with the things they say. I would like your support and vote. *Mvto.*

**Muscogee District
Seat B**
Name: Harley Gene
Little
Age: 65
Residence:
Muscogee
Family: wife, Gerri;
daughter, Jeanette
Askins; sons, Gene
and Kendall
Parents: the late
Buster Little and the
late Nora Blackie Douglas
Clan: Wind



Church: First Baptist Church, Muskogee
Tribal Town: Nuyaka
Experience: retired, BIA director and superintendent; former college professor; Korean War veteran; former Council representative; director of community services, Muscogee Nation
Reason for seeking office: My main reason for seeking the Council seat is to use my experience as a former government employee, council member, and tribal employee to retain the recognition and sovereignty of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This is a trying time for the Creek Nation with the U.S. Congress attempting to cut our assistance programs and our own internal prob

**Okfuskee District
Seat A**
Name: Hepsie Mae
Jackson
Age: 59
Residence: Okemah
Family: husband,
Bobby; son, Phillip;
and four grandchildren
Parents: Phillip and
Annie Monday Tiger
Clan: Bear
Church: Protestant,
attend High Spring Baptist
Church



Tribal Town: Fish Pond
Experience: 20 yrs. in federal-state social and economic programs; lobbying and advocacy for Indian rights and programs; sensitive and knowledgeable of tribal citizens' needs with four yrs. service on Muscogee (Creek) National Council
Reason for seeking office: Along with the rest of the general population we, the citizens of the Muscogee Nation, will soon be experiencing additional social and economic hardships due to cutbacks our federal government is proposing and already passed in some cases. We, as a tribe, need to shift gears — trimming our own budget in order to maintain accessible services to our citizens. I know the needs of our people and have experience personally and professionally in budgeting. To keep services on a high priority list with involvement from citizens, to increase unity and maintain our sovereignty is a goal we should all strive for. *Mvto.*

**Okfuskee District
Seat A**
Name: Nancy West
Watson
Age: 41
Residence: Okemah
Family: daughters,
Angie and Alison
Parents: Calvin C. and
the late Agnes Fixico
West
Clan: Eco
Church: Prairie
Springs Baptist Church
Tribal Town:
Okfuskee



Reason for seeking office: Two years ago, I made the decision to serve the people of my tribe as a member of the National Council. I was ready then and I am ready now to work for and with all citizens of the Creek Nation. My goal is to contribute to the progressive future of the Creek Nation and ensure the heritage of our ancestors.

Muscogee Election '95

Okfuskee District

Seat A

Name: Billy Ray Williams

Age: 56

Residence: Weleetka

Family: two children; four grandchildren

Parents: Irvin and Alice Williams

Clan: Raccoon

Church: Christ Community Church of Weleetka

Tribal Town:

Experience:

Reason for seeking office: I would like to serve as a National Council Representative for the Muscogee Nation for the purpose of establishing laws that uphold the Constitution of the Muscogee Nation. I feel it is time the legislative branch of our tribal government began to focus on enacting sound tribal laws that establish how the other branches of government operate. The duties and responsibilities of the legislative branch are already established. The day-to-day operation of running federally funded programs should not involve the time of our government's legislative branch. The present Council has attended numerous meetings and accomplished little or nothing to change or improve the Creek people's way of life. I would like to be involved in enacting laws that will do more for the Creek citizen's way of life than just attending meetings, receiving payment for mileage reimbursements, becoming involved in petty personal grievances, or other activities that deal with the special interests of individuals presently serving on the Council.



Okfuskee District

Seat B

Name: Wynema Roberts

Age: 44

Residence: Nuyaka Community

Family: sister, Patsy Pigeon; brothers, Carney, Roy, and Cainey Roberts Jr.

Parents: Stella and the late Cainey Roberts Sr.

Clan: Alligator

Church: Nuyaka Indian Baptist

Tribal Town: Nuyaka

Experience: 11 yrs., tribal employee; four yrs., National Council representative

Reason for seeking office: I have served as a spokesperson for the Okfuskee District for the past four yrs. and I have served on the tribal affairs committee. I have helped with properties and housing. This has enabled me to seek out citizens who were in need of homes. I have also served on the community services committee. This made me knowledgeable to our critical health needs. I was also on the fact finding committee. I have voiced concerns about our citizens' needs in all areas, I also have fought for equal rights for all citizens in all areas and all ages. My priority is our Creek tribal citizens.



Okmulgee District

Seat A

Name: Betty Ruth Gray

Age: 50

Residence: Okmulgee

Family: husband, Richard; son, Nathan

Parents: the late Wiley S. and Jennie Knight

Clan: Alligator

Church: Bowen Baptist Church

Experience: manager, Okmulgee Indian Community smokeshop

Reason for seeking office: I want to become an effective voice in the decision making at the National Council level on issues that affect the molding of the future, for the Muscogee (Creek) people. Problems exist in housing with homes and renovations being given out on a preferential basis to selected friends and families with large numbers of votes. HUD regulations state homes should be granted to families according to the priority list depending on the need situation. Another area of concern is fair hiring practices which currently don't exist due to rampant nepotism. With your vote and support, I will serve you honorably. *Mvto.*



Okfuskee District Seat B

Name: Bruce Smith

Age: 39

Residence: Weleetka

Family: wife, Vicky; children, Cheryl and Jason

Parents: the late Willis and Sarah Riley Smith

Clan: Raccoon

Church: Hvcceappv

Tribal Town:

Experience:

employed by Creek Nation, 1978-86; one term Okfuskee District representative; Council human development committee; chair, Graham School JOM

Reason for seeking office: Having completed my first term as a member of the National Council, I have gained the knowledge and experience of how the governing body works. I feel confident, if elected for another term, that this experience and knowledge will make me a better representative. My priorities are education, health care, economic development, jobs, housing, and more services for the elderly citizens. As an Okfuskee District representative, I will continue to work for the best interests of the Okfuskee District and all Creek citizens. I ask for your vote. *Mvto.*



Okfuskee District Seat C

Name: Simmer Hicks

Age: 36

Residence: Okemah



Okfuskee District Seat C

Name: Clyde Johnson

Age: 72

Residence: Okemah



Okmulgee District Seat A

Name: Dave Lewis

Age: 61

Residence: Henryetta

Family: wife, Lillie; sons, Ronnie and Richard; daughters, Diane and Sharon

Parents: the late Rev. David and Sally Jacobs Lewis

Clan: Bird

Tribal Town: Hickory

Ground

Experience: tribal main medicine man; two yrs., National Council representative

Reason for seeking office: As your Council representative, I have been an active participant. I continue to maintain contact with my constituents, other Council representatives, and the tribal administration. I research and study agenda items before voting because I know the power of my vote, which the people of this Nation have given me. I know that my vote can affect the young and old alike and it is a responsibility I do not take lightly.

There have been times when I have made unpopular decisions. However, this great Nation is only as strong as its leaders. I will not be a weak link in that chain and I will continue to be a leader, not a follower.

I again ask for your support in my campaign for reelection. There are still many areas we need to pursue to ensure the future of our Nation remains intact. *Mvto.*



Muscogee Election '95

**Okmulgee District
Seat A**
Name: Woodrow Lee
Age: 70
Residence: Hoffman



**Okmulgee District
Seat B**
Name: Anderson Hale
Age: 51
Residence: Mounds
Family: wife, Norma;
son, William; grand-
daughter, Anna Marie
Parents: the late Billy
and the late Lucy
Coker Hale
Clan: Beaver
Church: Snake Creek
Baptist Church
Tribal Town: Fish
Pond



Experience: two yrs., National Council
Reason for seeking office: I am seeking reelection so I can continue to better serve my people with the understanding of the difficult time to come due to the BIA budget cuts. We will not have as much money to work with for our federally funded programs. We need to be aware of what our top priority will be. I have sponsored several bills and have also been supportive of other bills that were beneficial to both citizens and the nation. *Mvto.*

**Okmulgee District
Seat C**
Name: Charlie Litsey
Age: 65
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: wife, Dorothy;
sons, James and Dale
Parents: the late Sid
and Katie Fish Litsey
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town:
Tukvptce
Experience: two
terms, citizenship
board; three term
Council representative



Reason for seeking office: As your National Council representative, I have attended all regular Council meetings. I study the legislation before the Council and vote the issues that will benefit the majority of the people. I feel the people still need help to receive the benefits they are entitled to. As a mediator for the people I have tried to make a better way of life for all of the Creek citizens. I will continue to be a working representative. If you feel I have been a fair and impartial representative, I ask for your vote Oct. 28.

**Okmulgee District
Seat A**
Name: Peggy Lyda
Age: 55
Residence:
Okmulgee
Experience: two yrs.,
National Council repre-
sentative



**Okmulgee District
Seat B**
Name: Garry Berryhill
Age: 48
Residence: Mounds
Family: son, Garry Jr.
Parents: the late Neffie
G. and Juanita Big-
head Berryhill
Clan: Alligator
Church: Pickett
Chapel United Method-
ist Church
Tribal Town: Duck
Creek, Coweta



Experience: retired, U.S. Navy; administrative office at various operational commands and staffs; database management; supervisor; recruiter; chaired numerous committees and school related activities; parent representative, San Diego County School Board

Reason for seeking office: I want to assist in ensuring the most efficient application of our tribal assets for continued financial growth and establishment of a fiscal base to ensure the ability to provide the services needed for our tribal members in today's hostile environment that exists in the federal Congress. I want to ensure that efficiency, farsightedness, and adequate and proper planning is the rule on all aspects of the tribal government. This can be only be accomplished through a team effort guided and overseen by the National Council and I deeply wish to be part of this process.

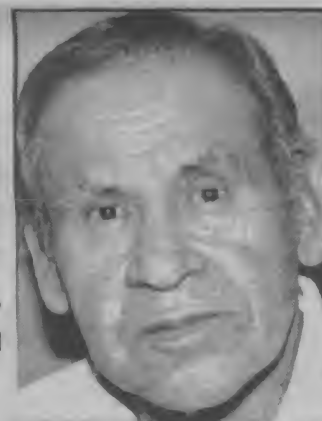
Okmulgee District Seat B
Name: July Tecumseh
Age: 43
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: wife, Norma;
sons, Tullamarsay
Noah, Yvhv Etmoses;
daughter, Tysie
Espoke
Parents: Israel
Tccumseh and Wisey
Scott
Clan: Katcv
Church: Concharty
United Methodist
Church
Tribal Town: Nuyaka



Experience: former chair, Twin Hills Indian Community

Reason for seeking office: To keep the Muscogee people informed on the activities of the National Council and help our citizens by giving them a chance to give their input on the bills and resolutions that are passed by the Council. I also want to be a strong voice for economic development, health care, child, and elderly welfare and to bring back pride, integrity, and honesty that once was synonymous with Native American.

**Okmulgee District
Seat C**
Name: Abe McIntosh
Age: 64
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: wife, Delores;
son, Rocky; daughters,
Denise, Kristi, and
Gena; six grandchil-
dren
Parents: J.D. "Cap"
and Velva Richard
McIntosh
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Baptist
Tribal Town: Arbeka



Experience: three yrs., Creek Nation Health Board; one yr., Creek Nation Housing Authority board; two yrs., director of human development, Muscogee Nation; 10 yrs., public education teacher, coach, and school district superintendent; 18 yrs., OSU-Okmulgee instructor and asst. department head; four and one-half years, Okmulgee city personnel director

Reason for seeking office: 1. To give positive representation for citizens' concerns and their needs; 2. promote changes which will improve and expand services to Creek Nation citizens; 3. promote better communication between Creek government and its citizens; 4. make my knowledge and experience available to Creek government and to Creek people.

Muscogee Election '95

**Okmulgee District
Seat D**
A.D. Ellis unopposed



**Okmulgee District
Seat E**
Name: David Nichols
(Harjo)
Age: 39
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: wife, Ginger;
sons, David Jr. and Ja-
son
Parents: Bob Harjo and
Joyce Fixico Nichols
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Salt Creek
United Methodist
Church



Tribal Town: Tukvptce
Experience: two yrs., National Council representa-
tive

Reason for seeking office: I seek reelection be-
cause I feel my concern for the tribal citizens and the
future of our tribal government are two issues that
must always be addressed. Our tribal programs have
declined and have also been denied to Muscogee
tribal citizens when funds were still available. I have
worked in a positive manner to ensure the continua-
tion and improve the programs that affect the lives of
every tribal citizen. I will continue to strive for a better
government in order to better serve the needs of the
people. Let's create jobs through economic develop-
ment in order to be a stronger government. *Mvto.*

**Tukvptce District
Seat A**
Name: Dwayne Lowe
Age: 42
Residence: Wetumka
Family: spouse,
Janice; five children
Parents: George Lowe
and the late Esther
Cain
Clan: Sweet Potato
Church: Yeager Mis-
sion Methodist
Tribal Town:
Tukvptce



Experience: 14 yrs., social worker; two-term
district representative

Reason for seeking office: To continue working
toward better housing, education, health, and
nutrition services for our people. Our tribe must
also develop profitable business enterprises.

**Okmulgee District
Seat E**
Name: Thomas P.
Berryhill
Age: 55



Residence: Mounds
Family: wife, Janice;
four children; three
step-children
Parents: Thomas and
the late Blanche
Berryhill
Clan: Alligator
Tribal Town: Arbeka

Experience: served
as Council representative, 1988-94; past co-chair of
Este Cate Mvskokullke Etviwa Etelaketa; chair, tribal
town center for organization; board member, Duck
Creek Indian Community; board member, First
America Watch Inc.

Reason for seeking office: There is a marked un-
easiness in every part of the government for we are
very close to trauma status. We must not lend our
energies to add to the hardships but initiate a plan of
survival for this is where we stand at this present
time. With six years experience, I have had 99 per-
cent success on numerous items of legislation of
every aspect that I have authored or introduced. With
renewed vision I will work for all Mvskoke (Creek)
people and will inform all communities in my district.
I am asking for your vote Oct. 28. *Mvto.*

Okmulgee District Seat E
Name: Patsy Johnson Wahnee
Age: 58

Residence: Morris
Family: four brothers;
six sisters; five chil-
dren; and nine grand-
children
Parents: the late
Harber and Bettie
McHenry Johnson
Clan: Tiger
Church: Methodist af-
filiated
Tribal Town: Coweta



Experience: bachelor's degree in
education, Cameron
Univ.; 11 yrs., tribal employee, human development
director; teacher, summer youth program; 16 yrs.,
residential life department, OSU-Okmulgee (current)
Reason for seeking office: I'm concerned about
the direction of the tribe in the areas of programs and
services. Congressional budget cuts will undermine
the tribe as we move into the 21st century. The obli-
gation of a Council representative is to represent our
community, communicate with our constituents, and
focus on the passage of tribal legislation. New av-
enues must be explored to stimulate the tribal
economy, promote citizens' welfare, provide educa-
tional opportunities for citizens and employees for
better service provision. Unity between governmental
branches should be the norm not the exception. We
must learn to work together for the betterment of our
people and continued growth of the tribe.

**Tukvptce District
Seat B**
Name: Edwin Marshall
Age: 41

Residence: Wetumka
Family: wife, Cheryl;
son, Jordan
Parents: the late Louis
Marshall Jr. and Eliza
Beaver Yargee
Clan: Fusw'lke
Church: Alabama
Coushatta Baptist
Tribal Town:
Tukvptce



Experience: current chair, Tukvptce Tribal Town;
chair, Wetumka Indian Community; past chair, elec-
tion board; member-at-large, Indian Child Welfare
Assoc.; member, National Association of Social
Workers; social worker, Seminole Nation Indian Child
Welfare

Reason for seeking office: The citizens of this dis-
trict deserve an assertive voice, a progressive mind,
an educated and truly qualified advocate as their rep-
resentative on the tribal Council. They also deserve a
representative that can relate to their way of thinking.
I feel that I can offer these things. I have a bachelor's
degree in social work which provides me with the very
knowledge and skills required to be an effective rep-
resentative. That includes the resident as well as ab-
sentee citizen.

Muscogee Election '95

**Tukvptce District
Seat B**
Name: L.C. Charlie
Franks
Age: 53
Residence:
Holdenville
Family: wife, Susanna
Lowe Franks; four chil-
dren; three grandchild-
ren
Parents: Emma Att-
Franks and the late
Taylor Franks
Clan: Bird



Church: Yeager United Methodist Church
Tribal Town: New Tulsa

Experience: eight yrs., military service; associate's degree, business administration; two yrs., National Council representative; DAV vice commander; 20 yrs., civil service employment; lay pastor

Reason for seeking office: As a Council representative, I will strive to expand tribal resources to promote better services for Creek citizens. As we all know, the federal government is proposing cutbacks which will greatly affect the tribe. The future of Creek Nation depends on resolutions and legislation that promote growth and stability. These acts should consist of establishing greater economic development opportunities or make every effort to seek any alternatives needed for progress. We should not allow our tribal citizens to suffer at the hands of the federal government. Your vote will be appreciated.

**Tukvptce District
Seat C**
Name: Darrell Coach-
man, incumbent
Age: 46
Residence: Wetumka
Family: spouse,
Sherry; daughter,
Amy; two grandchildren
Parents: Albert and the
late Abbie Coachman
Clan: Sweet Potato
Church: Wetumka In-
dian Baptist
Tribal Town:



Tukvptce

Experience: two-term Council representative; charter member, Wetumka Indian Community
Reason for seeking office: This Nation has been through some trying times and survived, but none so inspiring and threatening as what Congress proposes today. This Nation must remain united. We can only be as strong as our leaders. We need devoted leaders to help with our problems today. What Congress does today or in the future remains to be seen. We need creative leaders who can deal with our situations at the tribal level. We must continue to provide the highest levels of services to our tribal citizens. The challenges are there and must be confronted. Thank you for your continued support. Mvto.

Tulsa District Seat A
Name: Larry Bible, in-
cumbent
Age: 44
Residence: Glenpool
Family: wife, Michele;
three sons; one daugh-
ter
Parents: the late Andy
and Joann Bible
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town:



Locvpoka
Experience: six-term
National Council repre-
sentative; former second speaker; and chair of vari-
ous standing committees

Reason for seeking office: I would like the opportunity to continue to be in on the decision-making process of our tribal government and to explore avenues of economic development other than public gaming. I feel that I have adequately represented my constituents during my tenure and I will continue to make the decisions that are in the best interests of our people and I will not allow special interest groups or cliques within the tribal government to taint my judgement. I ask for your continued support in my endeavor to make our tribal government more receptive to the needs of our people. Mvto.

**Tukvptce District
Seat B**
Name: Timmie Fife
Age: 43
Residence: Dustin
Parents: the late
Jimmie and Carmen
Fife
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Thlewarle
Baptist Church
Tribal Town:



Experience: two yr.
district representative;
associate's degree, OSU-Okmulgee; certified auto-
motive technician; one-term chair, Dustin Indian Com-
munity; rodeo committee; tribal affairs committee
Reason for seeking office: I am seeking a second
term as district representative. I want to: bring
business and industry to the district; work with Indian
students to get FFA and 4-H projects; encourage
participation in community and tribal government
activities; create local Indian fire dept. or firefighters
association; ensure all high school juniors and seniors
within the district have been counseled for college or
vo-tech education; work JOM and other Indian
education programs to get a health clinic in Tukvptce
District; and to get a transportation program for the
elderly.

**Tukvptce District
Seat C**
Name: Johnson W.
Buck
Age: 54
Residence:
Holdenville
Family: wife, Connie;
two sons; and three
daughters,
Parents: Nathan and
Alice McCosar Buck
Clan: Bird
Church: Harvest Time
Tabernacle
Tribal Town: Eufaula



Experience: three terms, National Council; parlia-
mentarian, Holdenville Indian Community
Reason for seeking office: The job market is ex-
panding substantially for our tribal citizens in Dustin,
Holdenville, and Wetumka, as well as economic de-
velopment opportunity for the Holdenville community
because of the new prison facility to be complete in
1996. We need to aggressively seek economic de-
velopment related to the increase in population or
prison services to employ more Creek citizens. I
served three terms on the Council with many positive
accomplishments. I have business experience as well
as working with tribal, city, and state officials. I will
get the job done with your help and support.

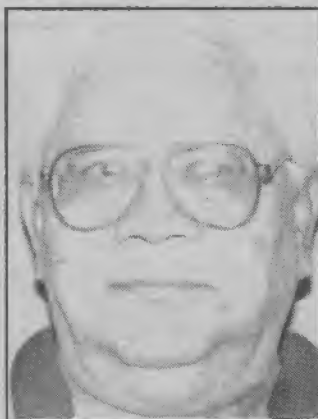
Tulsa District Seat A
Name: Richard "Rick"
Wilde
Age: 43
Residence: Broken
Arrow
Family: children, Rich-
ard and Melanie
Parents: Kathryn Bible
Jones; grandparents,
the late Dave Bible and
Leona Agnes Grayson
Bemo
Clan: Bird



Church: Spring Town
United Methodist Church
Tribal Town: Broken Arrow
Experience: U.S. Navy; chair, vice-chair, Tulsa Creek
Indian Community; associate's degree, Tulsa Jr. Col-
lege; Tulsa County Democratic Party
Reason for seeking office: To uphold Creek Nation
status as a sovereign Nation; pursue increased eco-
nomic development and diversification for the benefit
of our Nation and our people; to see the objectives of
the Council are continually focusing on the Nation as
a whole and not from a single community stand point
nor from an individual perspective; to be an advocate
for the people of Tulsa District, it does not matter
where they reside within the district; to speak for them
as a whole; to listen their needs; and to be available
to them at all times; to promote legislation that will
put the Creek Nation in the position as a leader of all
tribes. That is to enact legislation that will make the
laws within the Nation consistent and binding.

Muscogee Election '95 ☒

Tulsa District Seat A
Name: Teddy McHenry
Age: 60
Residence: Tulsa
Family: wife, Lyda Frank McHenry; eight children; nine grandchildren
Parents: Lewis T. and Gladys Bland McHenry
Clan: Beaver
Church: Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church
Tribal Town: Locvpoka



Experience: past treasurer, Tulsa Creek Indian Community; sergeant-at-arms, Tulsa Creek Indian Community

Reason for seeking office: I feel I can better represent the Creek citizens of Tulsa County and Creek Nation by being more sensitive to the needs and concerns of the people. I also will make myself more available to committee and public meetings. My primary concerns as a representative will be accountability, education, employment, and health issues. I feel a change is needed and ask for an opportunity to represent the people. *Mvto.*

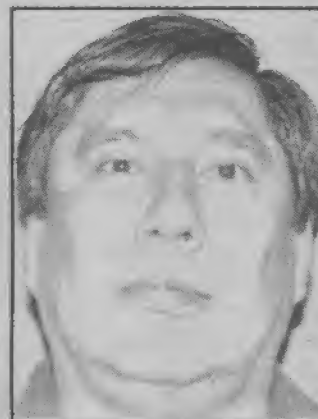
Tulsa District Seat B
Name: Earl King, incumbent
Age: 55
Residence: Tulsa
Family: daughter, Melanie; son, David Mekko; three grandchildren
Parents: the Rev. David and Annie King
Clan: Deer
Church: Montesoma Baptist Church
Tribal Town: Nuyaka



Experience: two yrs., National Council representative

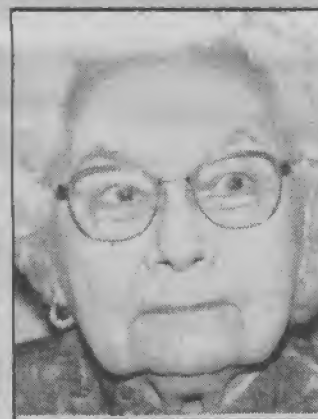
Reason for seeking office: I have represented the Tulsa District with distinction and honor supporting legislation to maintain our culture, traditions, and build our communities. I have a unique grasp of problems citizens face and supported legislation for communities, families, and individuals in need. I spoke against attempts to reduce federal funding to the tribe and supported the executive branch in their fight against cuts and I showed respect for tribal elders by voting for legislation that benefits senior citizens. Some of my goals for the district are: health and dental clinic; housing assistance program; summer youth employment; construction of a community center; economic development; legislation to protect sovereignty; and community activities for the elderly. With your support and my commitment we can achieve these goals.

Tulsa District Seat C
Name: Stanley McGilbray
Age: 44
Residence: Tulsa
Family: wife, Phyllis; son, Tyler; daughter, Heather
Parents: Joe and Vera McGilbray
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Christ United Methodist Church
Experience: one-year community board member; 14 mos., Tulsa Indian Community administrator



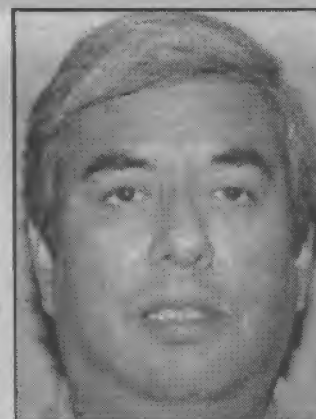
Reason for seeking office: To better serve the tribe, the Tulsa District and the Tulsa community. I serve no special interest group other than the tribe itself and to bring better representation and services to the tribe and Tulsa.

Tulsa District Seat B
Name: Irene Cleghom
Age: 80
Residence: Tulsa
Clan:
Church:
Tribal Town:
Experience: eight-term National Council representative; attended Oklahoma State University



Reason for seeking office: Education is my priority. I am interested in education and all phases of vocational and academic advantages offered by higher education and training. I speak Creek fluently. I consider the opportunity to run again for the office of Tulsa District representative and to represent the Creek tribal members who reside here as a proud adventure. I'll always consider this meaningful and a rewarding service for the people. I have represented the Creek people with honesty, unselfishness, caring, and integrity. Thanks for your support. Vote Oct. 28.

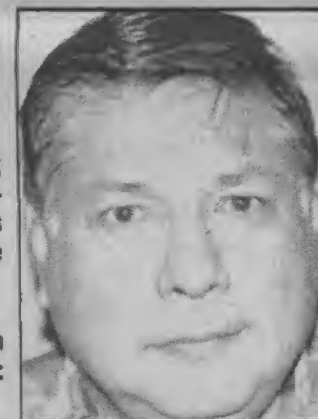
Tulsa District Seat C
Name: Ron Cleghom
Age: 45
Residence: Tulsa
Family: single
Parents: Irene Jacobs and James Cleghom
Clan: Sweet Potato
Church: First Baptist Church, Tulsa
Tribal Town: New Tulsa



Experience: have coordinated seven campaigns in Tulsa District

Reason for seeking office: I truly believe that the Muscogee Nation has to move in the direction of competent management and accountability of its programs due to projected federal budget cuts. Priority should be placed on the programs that benefit the elderly and the youth. Controversy has swirled around health care and housing. My general feeling is that the federal grant monies are being eaten in administrative costs and not enough services are being provided to Muscogee citizens. Another concern is tribal money should engage in equipment purchases and contracts with Indian owned businesses. I would appreciate your vote. *Mvto.*

Tulsa District Seat C
Name: Edwin Moore Jr.
Age: 55
Residence: Tulsa
Family: wife, Linda; four sons; one daughter; two stepdaughters
Parents: Ed and Sallie Moore
Clan: Bear
Church: Big Cussetah
Tribal Town: Cussetah



Experience: two yrs., National Council representative

Reason for seeking office: In order to lobby for restoration of current funding levels to the tribe as well as to seek additional funding sources for tribal programs. The experience I've gained from my first term of office will enable me to work toward the Muscogee Nation becoming an even more progressive tribal operation. To accomplish this goal, I plan on working with the employees of the Creek Nation and the community.

Muscogee Election '95

Tulsa District Seat C
Name: Carol Asbury Morris
Age: 55
Residence: Tulsa
Family: one son; and one granddaughter
Parents: Joe and Lillie Lewis Asbury
Clan: Bear
Church: Baptist affiliation
Tribal Town: Arbeka, Kialege



Experience: three yrs., board of directors, Tulsa Creek Indian Community; Okla. Code Enforcement Assoc. Board; community strategic planning committee; organizing Council Oak ceremony; employed with City of Tulsa Urban Development Dept.

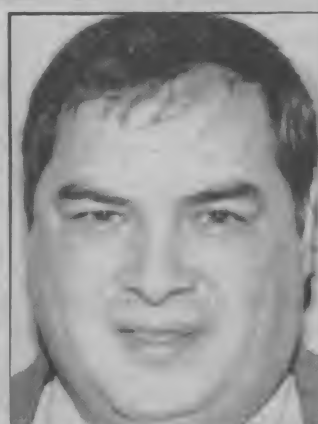
Reason for seeking office: Our community subsists on revenues that our smokeshop produces so it is vital that I help keep the business in operation as the revenue provides social programs and jobs for our community members. Producing revenue is a difficult task and the tribe must produce revenue on a grander scale. Today's health care is unaffordable for our citizens and health care is changing across the U.S. Business technology is improving and our citizens need re-training in order to survive in today's workplace. Education plays a big role in our jobs. We need our people to continue with their education in order to compete with other nationalities for jobs. As your Council representative, I would work hard to keep our social service programs and jobs continuing. I am asking for your vote in order to do this. I want the opportunity to help make changes to improve our lives.

Tulsa District Seat D
Name: Bim Stephen Bruner
Age: 46
Residence: Broken Arrow
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Locvpoka
Experience: former speaker, National Council
Reason for seeking office: I have been honored to have been



elected speaker of the National Council. It has been an honor to serve as chair of the fact-finding committee. I am seeking another term as representative to continue to serve in a leadership role, to search for the truth, and be able to inform citizens what is really occurring within the Creek Nation. All tribal officials must be accountable for actions involving the tribe's limited resources. The federal budget cuts are real and not just a threat. We must be accountable for every single dollar of our tribal monies. This election, more than any other in the history of the Muscogee Nation, will determine the direction the Muscogee Nation travels as we face our greatest challenges ever.

Tulsa District Seat D
Name: Jerry Wilson
Age: 43
Residence: Tulsa
Family: married; one child
Parents: Alfred and Ruth Wilson
Clan: Deer
Church: Opportunity Heights Baptist Church
Tribal Town: Tulsa Little River



Experience: three term National Council representative; former second speaker, National Council; former member, Intertribal Council; four yrs., communications manager, ESA, human development, and executive director, Creek Nation; six yrs., small business ownership; department head, technical college, OSU-Okmulgee; served on organizational committees for Tulsa and Glenpool Creek Indian communities; bachelors degree in business; master's in education
Reason for seeking office: The reason I am seeking a seat on the Council is simple: Congress is opposing our treaty rights by making budget cuts, taxing our enterprises, and shifting authority to the state. Our district needs someone who will look after our interest. These Congressional actions are outrageous because it will hit our people who can least afford it the hardest. Jobs will be lost, services discontinued, and our people will suffer. We need leadership that is experienced in advocating compliance to our treaties and agreements. Clearly, my experience and ability makes me the best candidate to serve the Tulsa District.

Tulsa District Seat C
Name: Okema Randall
Age: 69
Residence: Broken Arrow
Family: husband, Les; one son; two daughters
Parents: the late Mitchel and Eloise Boudinot
Clan: Deer
Church: Broken Arrow Indian Church
Tribal Town: Koweta



Experience: 11 yrs., executive secretary, American Airlines; former Council representative; former chair, Council human development committee
Reason for seeking office: I see a need for an education advocate in the Council and enforcement of our tribal laws. Community involvement should be addressed and enforced. A job description should be in place for our representatives. There are no written responsibilities or guidelines for representatives at the present time.

Tulsa District Seat D
Name: Faren Bunny
Age: 29
Residence: Glenpool
Family: single
Parents: Clarence Bunny, Emily Rose King
Clan: Alligator
Church: Thlewarle
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Experience: CASA volunteer
Reason for seeking office: I will bring forth



to our Council honesty, integrity, and accountability to all Creeks of this Nation. We need a strong and decisive government as we move toward the next century. I will be receptive to the ideas and needs of you, as Council representative to the Tulsa District. The future is ours to build as we fight through the budget cuts, fight through the issues of tribal sovereignty, and fight for the rights of the people of this tribe. We are Indians and always will be, we must work together for the benefit of all.

Tulsa District Seat E
Name: Jesse Kelley
Age: 48
Residence: Tulsa
Family: wife, Barbara; son, Lance
Parents: the late Mary Charley Day and the late Jesse Kelley
Clan: Bear
Church: Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church
Tribal Town: Locvpoka



Experience: two yrs., National Council representative; U.S. Marine Corps; past president, Broken Arrow Indian Club; chair, member, tribal election board; 15 yrs., retail bakery manager
Reason for seeking office: I seek reelection as Tulsa District representative because I would like to continue being a voice for the Muscogee (Creek) citizens of the Tulsa District to the National Council. There are some very important issues we are being faced with and I will certainly continue to speak in behalf of and vote for the best interests of our Muscogee people. It is very important for me to continue advocating for more funding for our clothing program for our children along with the funding for the expansion of Tulsa bingo facility. I believe in the checks and balances of tribal government. It can only benefit us all. As a Tulsa representative, I will continue to bring honesty, integrity, and fairness to all Muscogee citizens.

Muscogee Election '95 ☒

Tulsa District Seat E

Name: Earl Kelly

Age: 51

Residence: Tulsa

Family: wife, Pat; seven children; and nine grandchildren

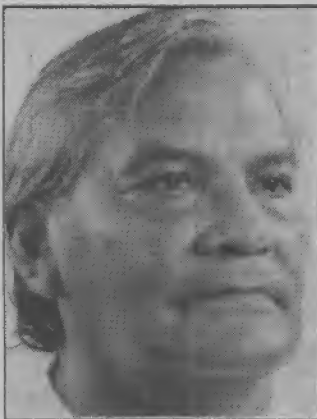
Parents: Ester and the late Willie Kelly

Clan: Bear

Tribal Town: attend Arbeka Ceremonial Ground

Experience: two terms, Tulsa Creek Indian Community Board of Directors; community enterprise board

Reason for seeking office: I have been active in the Tulsa Creek Indian Community having served two terms on the board of directors and currently on the enterprise board. I have the knowledge and ability to best represent the Tulsa Creeks. Legislation is needed in the following areas: commercial code to regulate business and increase tribal revenues; increase land base to attract established industries; technical assistance and capital made available to tribal members including absentees, to encourage enterprise; and enact codes regarding domestic, probate, etc., to exercise inherent sovereignty.



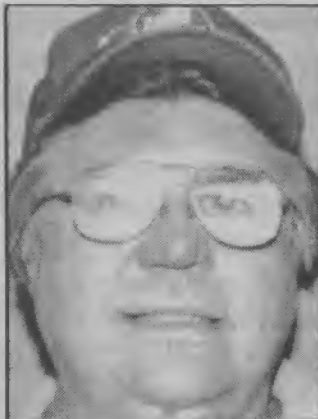
Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District Seat A

Name: Thurston Primeaux

Age: 55

Residence: Coweta

Experience: former National Council representative



Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District Seat B

Name: Barbara Gillespie

Age: 57

Residence: Coweta

Family: husband, Donald; sons, Larry and Gary

Parents: Mose Childers and Violet Childers Freeman

Clan: Sweet Potato

Church: First Baptist Church, Coweta

Tribal Town: Locvpoka

Experience: two yrs., National Council representative; past president, vice president, treasurer

Reason for seeking office:

The experience I have received as a Council member the past two years has prepared me for the problems facing our Creek citizens. With budget cuts from the federal level, strong positive efforts must be addressed to promote economic development to create revenue and jobs in all districts. We must continue to seek funding for education, job training, medical care and other services for citizens of all ages. By referendum vote the people voted to reduce the Council from 36 to 26 members. Experience, dedication and leadership are necessary to preserve the continuity within the National Council.



Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District Seat A

Name: Richard M. Berryhill

Age: 51

Residence: Coweta

Family: wife, Wilma Miller

Parents: the late Sam Berryhill and Viola McIntosh

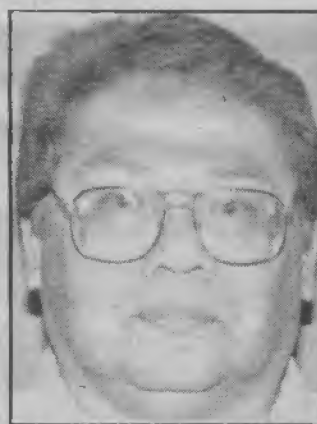
Clan: Bird

Church: Cedar Creek Baptist

Tribal Town: Hitchita

Experience: six yrs., National Council representative

Reason for seeking office: Helping all citizens of our tribe to finish projects that have been started and to insure that the Muscogee Nation stays sovereign and strong.



Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District Seat B

Name: Marie

Crittenden

Age: 73

Residence: Coweta

Family: husband, Roy; daughter, Helen Duncan; son, Lewis Haynes

Parents: the late Lewis and Martha Tiger Miller

Clan: Tiger

Church: Bemo Baptist

Tribal Town: Koweta

Experience: four yrs., task force; secretary, Koweta Indian Community; church treasurer

Reason for seeking office: My reason for seeking this position is, after observing the feelings among our people, we have some who are not aware of the opportunities and or services they are entitled to. We need to let everyone know of the existing programs and services. As a candidate for Council representative, if elected, I would try to help improve the senior citizen program, education, and health programs. Also, I would like to see a program for young adults starting out in life, such as a work program. I promise to do all I can for Creek Nation in bringing unity among the people.



*Okfuskee District Seat B

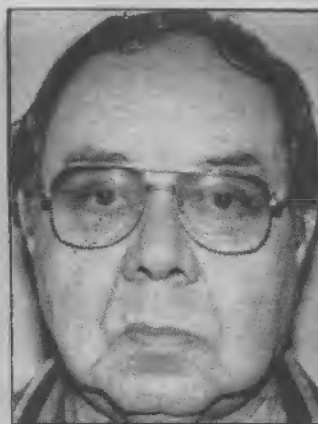
Name: Bobby

Harjo

Age: 65

Residence:

Weleetka



* No other information received.

Education

Lance corporal completes training

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — Lance Corporal Donald "D.J." Wallace completed fiscal-budget technician training at the Financial Management School on the Marine Corps base.

The course taught him accounting techniques and procedures, budget formulation and funding control procedures. He is currently serving as an accounting technician at the Marine Corps Reserve Center in New Orleans, La.

Wallace is a 1992 graduate of Boynton High School where he lettered in basketball and baseball. He attended Oscar Rose Junior College and Connors State College. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1994.

He is the son of Georgia Ann Coser Frye, Muskogee, and the grandson of the late George and Stella Coser, Okmulgee.



Wallace

Citizen accepted to college mortar board

EDMOND — University of Central Oklahoma senior Grace Shelton has been accepted to the mortar board recently.

She is a political science major and is on the dean's honor roll. She plans to attend law school at Oklahoma Christian University after she graduates.

She is the daughter of Mike and Polly Shelton. She is the great-granddaughter of Connie Alexander Dobbs and the late Gales and Aileen McClure. Her great-great-grandparents are Willie Tecumseh Alexander and Stella Partridge White.



Shelton

Student accepted to Indian honor society

NORMAN — Henryetta High School sophomore Jeremy Clint Larney was accepted to the Oklahoma Indian Honor Society last spring.

Requirements for admission: possession of a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood; a grade point average of 3.9 or higher; and nomination by a school administrator.



Larney

Larney maintains a 4.0 GPA. His other activities and awards include: Oklahoma Honor Society; academic letter award; national honor roll; math national honor roll; superior ratings in state band; state choir; state piano; state tennis; outstanding solo at regionals, 1995; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; class representative; and academic team.

Larney plans to attend college and pursue a career in either the medical or scientific field.

He is an active member of First Freewill Baptist Church. He is the son of Richard and Lola Larney.

Student accepted to Indian honor society

NORMAN — Jennifer Ford is one of two Henryetta High School students accepted to the Oklahoma Indian Honor Society last spring.

Requirements for admission: possession of a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood; a grade point average of 3.9 or higher; and nomination by a school administrator.

The sophomore's honors include: National Honor Society; Oklahoma Honor Society; gifted and talented classes; all-star marching band; and academic team.

She plans to enter the Air Force and pursue a career in telecommunications.

She is the daughter of Donna and Skip McCullar.



Ford

Girl accepted to Who's Who publication

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — Tribal citizen Jara Harrell has been recommended by the sponsors of American Coed pageants to receive award recognition and have her biography published in Who's Who Among American High School Students, 1994-95.

Since 1967, Who's Who has been the largest publication in the nation recognizing students for their achievements in academics, athletics, and extracurricular activities. Five percent of high school students receive this award each year.

Harrell is in the 11th grade at Faith Central Christian Academy in Sapulpa.

Among her awards and activities are: Tulsa Tribune Spelling Bee winner; pompon girl; cheerleader; basketball; band; community service award; jazz dance; three beauty titles; and seven



Harrell

crowns and trophies.

She is the granddaughter of Delores Sieber of Stroud.

Boy has successful baseball season

CACHE — Jason Christopher Felix was short-stop and pitcher for the Cache Cyclones summer league baseball team.

The 10-year-old is in the fourth grade at Cache Public Schools. He plays soccer, basketball, baseball, and football.

He is the son of Richard and Jacqueline Felix.

He is the grandson of the late Susanna M. Tiger, Coweta, and James R. Felix Jr., Kellyville.

His maternal grandparents are Betty R. Cable and Jackson Pete, both of Cache.



Felix

Ford fellowships to be awarded

WASHINGTON — The National Research Council plans to award 20 Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowships, 50 three-year predoctoral fellowships, and 20 one-year dissertation fellowships to American Indians and various other minority groups.

Awards will be made in the behavioral and social sciences, humanities, engineering, mathematics, physical sciences, and life sciences, or for interdisciplinary programs composed of two or more eligible disciplines.

The deadline for postdoctoral fellowship application is Jan. 5.

The deadline for entering the predoctoral and dissertation fellowship competition Nov. 3.

For more information, write: Ford Foundation Fellowship Office, TJ 2039, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, D.C. 20418.

Harvard program seeks Native Americans

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — The Harvard Native American Program at Harvard University is seeking to recruit Native Americans.

Thirteen schools and colleges of Harvard University offer a wide range of options in undergraduate, graduate, and professional education for prospective students.

Approximately 115 Native students currently attend the university — 65 percent at the graduate level and 35 percent at the undergraduate level.

For more information, call (617) 495-4923. Prospective students may also reach the program by electronic mail at: nep@hugsel.harvard.edu; or write: Harvard Native American Program, Harvard University, HGSE, Read House, Appian Way, Cambridge, MA 02138.

Muscogee youth

Citizens announce birth of firstborn

TULSA — Muscogee citizens Julie and Phillip Gray II announce the birth of their firstborn, Sydne Rain Gray.

She was born at 8:10 p.m., Sept. 10 at St. John Medical Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20 and one-half inches in length.

Her Indian name is *Mehenwv*, given by her great-great-aunt Pauline Pakoska Billy of Okmulgee.

Her maternal grandparents are Perry and Kaye Berryhill, Broken Arrow. Maternal great-grandparents are Thomas and the late Blanche Pakoska Berryhill, Wilson Community, and Juanita and the late Charlie Green, Henryetta.

Paternal grandparents are Delane and Ron Alberty, Owasso, and Phillip Gray, Tulsa. Her great-grandparents are Peggy and George Inman and Robert Gray, all of Tulsa. She is the great-great-granddaughter of the late Netche and Bertha Gray.



Gray

Young citizen celebrates third birthday

HOLDENVILLE — Megan Franks celebrated her third birthday on Sept. 30.

She is the daughter of Chris and Julie Franks.

Her grandparents are Charles and Suzanne Franks and Dennis and June Carroll.

She is the great-granddaughter of Emma and the late Taylor Franks and Albert and Elizabeth Lowe.



Franks

Okmulgee citizen turns four

OKMULGEE — Kristin Gay Kiehl celebrated her fourth birthday on July 5.

Kiehl, Creek-Choctaw-Cherokee, enjoys riding her horse, Freckles, and spending time with many other pets also. She is a student at Ryal Preschool.

She is the daughter of Tracy and Beverly Kiehl. Her grandparents are: Phillip and Shirley Benson, Okmulgee; Chuck and Marilyn Kiehl, Tulsa; and Mack and JoAnne Davis, Henryetta.

She is the great-granddaughter of Stella and the late Edward Benson, Okmulgee, and Sumner and Edith Taylor, Tahlequah. She has one brother, Guy, age two.



Kiehl

Boy has successful baseball season

HENRYETTA — Joshua Burgess has had a successful baseball season with the Hungry Traveler Hurricanes.

Burgess was named most valuable player in the Henryetta Tournament. The team was the 11 to 12 year-old Okmulgee League Champs. It won the district championship in Atoka; Burgess pitched two district championship games and hit three home runs. The team advanced to state finals in Weatherford.

His record for the season: 17-1 won-loss record; 207 strikeouts; 97 innings pitched; 31 walks; and a .580 batting average.

Burgess is the son of Gina and Monroe Burgess Jr. of Henryetta. He is the grandson of Ester and the late Monroe Burgess, Okmulgee. His great-grandmother is Berniece Kuykendall.



Burgess

Citizen hired with city police department

OKLAHOMA CITY — Jim Weaver has accepted employment with Warr Acres Oklahoma City Police Department.

Weaver competed with 120 applicants. A written exam, agility test, and oral board review were completed before Weaver was selected for the position.

He is the son of Mike and Polly Shelton. He is the great-grandson of Connie Alexander Dobbs and the late Gales and Aileen McClure. He is the great-great-grandson of the late Willie Tecumseh Alexander and Stella Partridge White.



Weaver

Tribal member receives award for program

CLAREMORE — Muscogee citizen Mary Sue Peak, on behalf of the Claremore Indian Hospital Federal Women's Program, received a commendation award at an Aug. 16 ceremony. She was presented the award by Service Unit Director John Daugherty.

The FWP has organized various in-services to promote professional women over the past three years. There are 300 female employees at the hospital.

Peak is the chair of the program. She has been a member of the Muscogee Nation Election Board since 1975.

Thornton Family holds 15th annual reunion

TAHLEQUAH — The Thornton Family held its 15th annual family reunion at the Illinois River during Labor Day weekend.

Around 108 people from Sand Springs, Sapulpa, Bristow, Peggs, Kellyville, Nuyaka, Tulsa, Claremore, Inla, Hominy, Westville, Keifer, Glenpool, Tiger Mountain, Coweta, Alta, Dewar, Tahlequah, Muskogee, Salina, Arizona, and Arkansas attended.

Cousins win Labor Day pageant titles

HENRYETTA — Marissa Dawn Bear, six, won the title of Henryetta Labor Day Pageant Miss La Petite recently.

A rendition of "He's Still Working on Me" helped her win the title. She also won first place in the parade.

Bear is in the first grade at Wilson. She is the daughter of Daniel and Melissa Bear. Her grandparents are Ashley and Mary Bear, Okemah. Her great-grandparents are Barney and Liza Leader, Holdenville, and the late Annie Coker Bear.

Three-year-old Julian Lee Harjo won the title of king in the boys 36 to 47 month division of the Henryetta Labor Day Baby Pageant. He is the son of Scott and Georgia Harjo. His grandparents are Bill and Hepsey Harjo.

Matthew Lee King, two, was selected second runner-up in the boys 24 to 35 month division of the Henryetta Labor Day Baby Pageant.

He is the son of Wilson Jr. and Karen King. His grandparents are Wilson and Wanda King. His great-grandmother is Mary Soweka.

All three are the grandchildren of Ester and the late Monroe Burgess, Okmulgee. Their great-grandmother is Berniece Kuykendall.



Bear



Harjo



King

Community news

CHECOTAH — Checotah Indian Community elected new officers recently. The officers are: Charles Skaggs, chair; Mary Kaulay, vice chair; Frankie Carr, secretary; Benji Colburn, vice secretary; Denise Coleman, treasurer; and Onzell Keahbone, reporter.

Regular community meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

A luncheon is held at noon on the third Tuesday of each month for community elders. Those attending are requested to bring a covered dish.

The community meeting and elders' luncheon are held at the community center located at 998 Maple St.

Quarterly financial statement

PROGRAM NAME	RECEIPTS	BUDGET	ENCUMBERED	EXPENDED	UNENCUMBERED
20% ICUSA	889,107	878,000	0	197,985	680,015
MCN Legal Defense Fund	295,168	290,000	0	125,167	164,833
Treasury	14,667	0	0	459	(459)
Litigation & Lobbying	190,053	22,352	0	19,412	2,940
General Taxes & License	939,768	1,249,867	0	885,178	364,689
Administration / Indirect	1,210,748	2,378,917	0	1,503,163	875,754
Consumer Loans	14,768	0	0	(65,047)	65,047
Creek Nation Bingo	1,834,078	3,127,406	0	1,556,710	1,570,696
CN Permanent Fund	6,650,282	1,218,000	0	1,213,799	4,201
1993 Tribal Budget	785,920	1,352,752	0	655,916	696,836
Tax Commission	133,564	195,766	0	77,093	118,673
Division of Human Dev.	288,997	486,566	0	295,040	191,526
CCDBG '92	812,938	1,537,204	0	830,963	706,241
Homeless Assist. Act '9	99	193	0	193	0
HHS - Head Start	153,646	158,735	0	153,646	5,089
Com. Ser. Block Grant	13	0	0	0	0
L.I.H.E.A.P.	5,135	0	0	0	0
Title IV - B Children S	60,239	112,026	0	60,238	51,788
Child Abuse Prev/Educ.	116,435	163,174	0	117,088	46,086
Dept. Comm. & Fam. Ser	232,501	1,774,217	0	234,057	1,540,160
Dept. of Public Health	6,690	651,263	0	6,690	644,573
Tribal Affairs	707,818	699,318	0	688,826	10,492
Division of Human Devel	3,422	3,989	0	3,422	567
Cultural Science	0	6,074	0	6,010	64
FDP - FY '93	295,050	328,465	0	295,894	32,571
Headstart USDA Reimburse	71,153	68,332	0	47,219	21,113
Euf. Dorm - Activity Fun	153	0	0	0	0
Election Board	482	7,050	0	535	6,515
Citizenship Board	3,174	2,118	0	0	2,118
Self-Governance Compact	5,646,667	5,319,922	0	2,948,048	2,371,874
D. of Human Development	11,665	60,811	0	8,860	51,951
BIA - Aid to Tribal Gov	(11,183)	0	0	0	0
BIA - Natural Resources	(18,652)	0	0	0	0
BIA - Agriculture	3,752	3,752	0	3,752	0
BIA - Housing	2,343	484	0	484	0
Eufaula Dormitory	1,189,055	1,088,097	0	757,315	330,782
Tribal Self Governance	2,148	0	0	0	0
BIA - Trans. Improv. Pro	35,277	48,342	0	36,477	11,865
JOM Program	469,467	1,175,611	0	474,400	701,211
SG Negotiation Grant	54	0	0	0	0
Comprehensive Planning	0	49,613	0	0	49,613
Employment & Training	810,648	938,116	957	810,648	128,425
Department of Education	571,242	915,671	0	572,992	342,679
Community Serv. Bldg.	165,583	624,625	0	45,360	579,265
Tribal Agric. Program	0	0	0	2,284	(2,284)
Lighthorse Services	178,353	0	0	214,438	(214,438)
Construction Company	153,889	71,297	0	69,370	1,927
Communication Revlmg. Fn	2,244	18,200	0	0	18,200
Investment Trust	(314,523)	0	0	0	0
C.N. Taxes & Fringe	2,188	0	0	137,224	(137,224)
Nonexpendable Trust	44	0	0	0	0
Tribal - Real Prop. & F	424,366	778,202	0	511,358	266,844
Tribal - Property & Supp	44,794	140,350	0	63,539	76,811
CN Foun. Scholarship Fu	3,276	0	0	2,084	(2,084)
Festival Committee	68,933	63,813	0	49,864	13,949
Totals	\$25,157,698	\$28,008,690	\$957	\$15,618,153	\$12,391,494

For the quarter ending June 30, 1995 (third quarter, fiscal year 1995)

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Controller's Office produces a series of monthly budgetary and general ledger reports on all activities and programs of the Nation as one of its major functions.

These reports are made available to appropriate tribal management personnel and other interested parties.

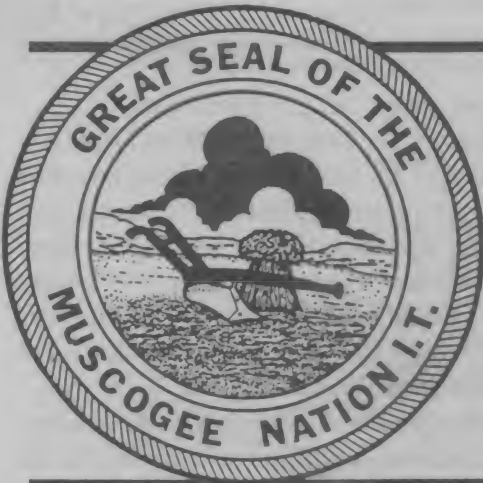
The controller's office maintains an accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

It meets the standards and reporting requirements of the Government Finance Officers Association and the reporting requirements of the A-128 Single Audit Act.

Reports prepared under these standards tend to be technical and complex by nature. It may require a more indepth understanding of both accounting principles and funding accounting than those of other entities.

A summary is submitted quarterly in order to keep tribal members aware of the financial status is the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and in compliance with NCA 88-70

• prepared by the controller's office



The Muscogee Nation News

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November 1995, 8 Pages

Fife, Beaver in run-off

Fife takes 31 percent of vote in October primary; Beaver finishes second in race for principal chief

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief Bill Fife topped the list of candidates vying to lead the Muscogee Nation as a result of the Oct. 28 primary election.

Fife bested the pack with 1,434 votes (30.97 percent) followed by National Council Tulsa District Representative Perry Beaver's 1,112 votes (24 percent). The two now face a Dec. 2 general election.

More than 4,600 votes were divided among eight candidates. Finishing third was Second Chief Shelly Crow with 764 votes (16.5 percent).

Complete
Muscogee Nation
election results on
page 8

The order of finish from fourth through eighth is as follows:

- Thomas Yahola — 594, 12.8 percent;
- Allen Harjo — 338, 7.3 percent;
- Clarence Cloud — 158, 3.4 percent;
- Sherryl Gonseth — 132, 2.8 percent; and
- Ralph Gray — 98, 2.1 percent.

Crow, who became the first woman elected to a tribal-wide office in 1991, will officially relinquish her duties as second chief in January.

Yahola is the National Council Speaker. He will relinquish his Tukvptce District Representative position after he convenes the Council in January.

Harjo is Thlopthlocco Tribal Town administrator.

please see ELECTION..., page 8



Miss Mvskoke Nation Royce Grammar sings hymns at the Council Oak Ceremony Oct. 29. The ceremony commemorates the arrival of the Muscogee at Locapokv and is a gesture of good will between the tribe and the City of Tulsa.

photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Veterans Day Tribute

Muscogee pastor recalls the end of World War II

COWETA — George Doyle was an 18-year-old Okemah High School Student when his country requested his services in 1943.

The United States had declared war in December 1941 after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. The Allies' war effort was the largest in history and Doyle was soon to be engaged in battle against the Japanese — one of the most fearsome war machines ever.

For Doyle, and other Muscogee citizens, the issue of racism and past wrongs were not an issue when they asked to die for the country that had once been an enemy of Indians.

"I was scared, but I had a job to do," Doyle said. "I felt [service] was more of my duty as an Ameri-

can citizen."

The ordained pastor said his service in the U.S. Navy was also a "defense of the gospel and my country."

Others were concerned however.

Nora Wind, then his fiance, recalls "Elders were very concerned about young men leaving for war. All [Indian] churches around Okemah had all night singings and [offered the] hand of fellowship.

"Some churches put photos of the boys on the walls of the churches. We really respected the boys."

Doyle was a seaman first class and was sent to the central Pacific on an armed cargo ship. From there, he and his shipmates joined a convoy of battle ships, cruisers, destroyers, and aircraft carriers.

For an Indian from landlocked Oklahoma, life on the sea was much different. Doyle recalls the sea sickness and the lengthy monsoon season.

The weather soon became a secondary issue as Doyle encountered combat for the first time at Palau Islands in the Philippine Sea.

There, a fierce battle for the islands led to thou-

sands of casualties before the U.S. took control from the Japanese.

Doyle, a gunner on the USS Saratoga, recalls the fighting was severe and many were afraid for their lives. For Doyle, his faith and his awareness of the support back home sustained him.

Doyle also saw combat at Guam, Mindanao (the largest island of the Philippines), Mariana Islands, and was part of a contingency force at Iwo Jima.

Doyle recalls the intense shelling of Guam in that pivotal July 1944 battle. As the Americans inched closer toward occupation, the Japanese killed all of the natives, and others as well, to prevent them from talking with U.S. Navy Intelligence.

"The Japanese left many bodies when they left the hills," Doyle said. "They were killed to keep from talking to the U.S."

Guam and nearby Tinian were to pay important roles in the Pacific Theater. Guam eventually became the advance headquarters for U.S. Navy Admiral

please see WAR..., page 8



Doyle

The upcoming Thanksgiving holiday is a very special time to share with our families and friends. It is a time to be thankful for our achievements and successes in our own life and as a member of the Muscogee Nation. I encourage everyone to strengthen their personal relationships during family gatherings. It is through such a family building process that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall continue to grow and succeed in its endeavors. I would like to express a special thank you to the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for all of your support and wish you happiness during this Thanksgiving holiday.

Principal Chief Bill S. Fife

Letters to the editor

Tulsa representative thanks constituents

Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my constituents in the Tulsa District for having enough confidence in me by reelecting me to the National Council.

A special thanks goes to Pat Clark, Becky Bonner, and Billie Childers for their untiring efforts in my reelection campaign.

I will continue to look out for the best interests of all Creek citizens and will promote unity between all branches of the tribal government. Economic development will also be a priority.

I would also encourage my constituents, or any Creek citizen for that matter, to personally contact me if you have any concerns pertaining to Creek Nation legislative matters or client services. You may contact me at: (918) 322-8110, day; (918) 366-3464, night; or (918) 643-1694, pager.

Larry Bible, Glenpool

Glenpool community thanked for efforts

Editor:

I am writing this letter to thank Glenpool Indian Community officers for all that they have done and accomplished.

The future of this community is moving forward. If we, as Indians, were to work together as this community does — it would show that people who care can and will accomplish any task set before them.

It has been my honor and privilege to have known all of them as my friends. There is much to look forward to in knowing my friends will continue to serve

this community with such outstanding dedication.

Faren Bunny, Glenpool

Second chief candidate commends voters

Editor:

Just as we, as a Nation, are at a critical point in our history, we are now at a critical point in the election process. To all of you that have supported my candidacy — I thank you for your confidence and recent vote. To those who cast their vote for one of the other candidates, I commend you for upholding your civic responsibility.

I would also like to encourage all of you to join me in a strengthened effort to bring cooperation and unity to our government and Nation. It is my objective to build bridges across those issues that now divide us so that we may be prepared for the challenges that we will face in our near future. I welcome everyone who shares my vision of unification and will listen to all those who want to share their ideas with me.

Kenneth L. Childers, Bixby

Editor's note: Childers will face George Almerigi in a Dec. 2 runoff for second chief.

Council member thanks voters for support

Editor:

I would like to thank the voters of the Muskogee District for voting me into another term of office.

I will do my best to serve the people as I have done in the past. I am available at all hours.

Helen Chupco, Muskogee

Veterans endeavor to establish agenda

Editor:

Thanks to you and your staff for your assistance in the efforts of Phillip Coon, Charlie Coker, and myself to compile data on our Creek veterans.

The information received to date shows clearly that Creek citizens responded very well to our country's call to serve. We do, however, need to hear from the female veterans and we ask that family members register their deceased veterans.

I intend to complete the survey sheet on: my father, Samuel Anderson, who was in World War I; my sister, Elaine, a Korean War veteran; and my brother, Samuel Anderson Jr., a World War II veteran.

It has become apparent to me in the reading of data received that we, as Creeks, can be exceedingly proud of and grateful to those of our tribe who served so well and with distinction. That is why I urge that every effort be made to name all our warrior since none should be omitted or overlooked.

When a sufficient number of replies have been received, a committee will be established. They will be asked to develop a viable agenda and-or project which promotes and preserves the history and deeds of Creek veterans for posterity. We need to bring to the attention of everybody just what our Creeks contributed to the welfare and defense of our country during its time of need.

Jorene Coker, Preston

Editor's note: See related notice on page 4.

Citizens prompted to cast votes intelligently

Editor:

We are facing difficult times ahead with little prepa-

ration for confronting the issues before us.

Economy-wise, we have depended on bingo revenue; investments for our livelihood have had little effect on our achievements. Outside funds and grants have helped us tremendously, but we haven't helped ourselves that much. There is a lesson to be learned from the way Nobel Prize winners are chosen. They are selected through their personal achievements and their contributions to mankind.

We are in the process of electing our tribal leaders. A Chinese proverb says a journey of a thousand miles starts with the first step. This is another opportunity to correct our past mistakes and chart a new start. Our elected leaders must keep our tribal members focused on the ideals of our tribe and the simple purpose that each elected official is held to as they take the oath of office. Our mission, as the Muscogee tribe, is not fulfilled until all of our members, their widowed spouses, and their dependent children have been adequately cared for. It is a simple concept and it is the source of our strength.

When voting, let us be honest with ourselves and vote intelligently. We are not only looking at ourselves in the present day and time, but are peering into the future.

The time has come where we must lay aside our petty grievances; lay aside the candidates who may be our kinfolks or close friends and vote for the one

please see **LETTERS...**, page 8

Clarification

The Muscogee Nation Attorney General's response contained in an editor's note [*The MNN*, October, 1995] should have read, "The department [office of the attorney general] does have a backlog of cases or issues to be handled."

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

James Wolfe, managing editor

Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff

Legal notice

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 24, issue 11, November 1995.

In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in the matter of Ema Grayson vs. William H. Hill, Ronald Ratliff, Charlotte Singley, and Polecat Enterprises, Inc., case CV-94-35.

Notice by publication.

Take notice that you have been sued in the above court by the plaintiff, Ema Grayson, and you are directed to file a written answer to the petition within 41 days of this publication, or judgment as stated in the petition will be rendered accordingly.

National Council gives \$700,000 to smokeshops

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council voted to override a veto and postponed action on the fiscal year 1996 budget at October session at the tribal capitol complex.

The 36-member tribal legislature, through its 27-8 override vote, will return more than \$700,000 to licensed tribal retail tobacco outlets. The payments are based on consumer taxes that were collected by smokeshop owners for the Nation's lobby and litigation fund.

Principal Chief Bill Fife vetoed the original legislation. In his veto message, Fife wrote the tax was assessed to fund actions in response to state and federal hostility toward Indian programs and treaty obligations. Fife said the current legislation did not prove that such hostility no longer exists.

Fife said the account was created for the protection of tribal sovereignty against state and federal sources and tobacco is not the only issue that requires protection against state and federal litigation.

Also, Fife said the tax is placed on the consumer of tobacco products. The shops only collect the tax from the consumer for the tribe.

Voting by districts for the veto override were:

Creek District

Yes: Duke Harjo; Leah Jack; Phyllis Warrington; and Earl Wheeler

McIntosh District

Yes: Wilbur Gouge; Sandy McIntosh; Tommy Pickering; and Yahola Townsend

Thomas McIntosh was absent.

Muskogee District

Yes: Charlie Coker; Helen Chupco; and Frances Pease

Okfuskee District

Yes: Clyde Johnson
No: Mae Jackson; Wynema Roberts; and Bruce Smith

Okmulgee District

Yes: A.D. Ellis; Anderson Hale; Dave Lewis; Charlie Litsey; Peggy Lyda; and David Nichols

Tukvptce District

Yes: Thomas Yahola
No: Darrell Coachman; Dwayne Lowe; and Tim Fife

Tulsa District

Yes: Perry Beaver; Steve Bruner; Irene Cleghorn; Jess Kelley; and Edwin Moore

No: Larry Bible

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District

Yes: Richard Berryhill and Barbara Gillespie

The Council was not as generous with FY 96 funds. With a 23-11 vote, the Council postponed action on FY 1996 appropriations until an Oct. 30 emergency session. The Council had appropriated one month's funding of the 1996 budget and was considering a continuing resolution for programs and services operations. The bill was approved unanimously at the emergency session.

In other business, the Council:

- postponed the authorization and appropriation of funds for the development and construction of tribal travel plazas in Okmulgee, Muskogee, and other strategic locations. Yahola cast the tie-breaking vote.

Creek District

Yes: Jack

No: Harjo; Warrington; and Wheeler

McIntosh District

Yes: Gouge; S. McIntosh; and Townsend

Muskogee District

Yes: Coker and Pease

No: Chupco

Okfuskee District

Yes: Jackson; Johnson; and Roberts

No: Smith

Okmulgee District

Yes: Hale; Litsey; and Lyda

No: Ellis; Harjo; Lewis; and Nichols

Tukvptce District

No: Coachman; Fife; and Lowe

Tulsa District

Yes: Beaver; Bruner; Cleghorn; and Kelly

No: Bible; King; and Moore

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District

Yes: Berryhill

No: Gillespie;

- confirmed Muscogee citizen Myron Taylor as tribal controller with a 28-6 vote. Taylor, a Tulsa resident, owns the consulting and management systems firm, Delron, Inc.

Creek District

Yes: Harjo; Jack; Warrington; and Wheeler

McIntosh District

Yes: Gouge; S. McIntosh; Pickering; and Townsend

Muskogee District

Yes: Chupco and Pease

No: Coker

Okfuskee District

Yes: Johnson and Smith



photo by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife, left, exchanges keys and contracts with Jim Fields, acting area director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The tribe will now contract the road program from the BIA.

No: Jackson and Roberts

Okmulgee District

Yes: Ellis; Lewis; Litsey; Lyda; and Nichols

No: Hale and Harjo

Tukvptce District

Yes: Coachman; Fife; and Lowe

Tulsa District

Yes: Beaver; Bible; Cleghorn;

Kelley; King; and Moore

No: Bruner

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District

Yes: Berryhill and Gillespie;

- approved unanimously an appropriation to purchase property for Hillabee Ceremonial Ground, near Hanna, and place the land in trust for continued use by the ground members. Hillabee is one of 14 active Muscogee ceremonial grounds;

- approved unanimously an appropriation of \$1,500 for compensation for the employee protection commission recording secretary;

- approved unanimously a 50-50 percent profit sharing agreement between the tribe and the Bristow Indian Community smokeshop. The original split was 60-40 percent with the lesser going to the community. No figures regarding revenue flows were presented;

- approved unanimously to appropriate funds from the tribe's Indian Country U.S.A lawsuit monies to fund the tribe's higher education scholarship program for fiscal year 1996;

- approved unanimously amendments to the Eufaula Dormitory School Board Act. The changes will allow the board chair to call special meetings as needed and will stagger the terms of the five-member board;

- approved unanimously a resolution allowing lands purchased by Kialegee Tribal Town to be placed in trust. The

town is a federally recognized tribal entity with origins in the 1936 Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act. Since Kialegee is within the political jurisdiction of the Muscogee Nation, the tribe must give its consent before another entity may have land placed in trust;

- gave unanimous confirmation to the reappointment of Muscogee citizen Wilbert Lowe to the tribe's farm authority board. Lowe resides in Weleetka;

- gave unanimous confirmation to the reappointment of Muscogee citizen Darrell Howell to the farm authority board. Howell resides in Checotah;

- approved unanimously to accept property for the purpose of processing it from fee to trust status. The property is being utilized by the Tribal Towns Center Organization in Okemah and was donated to the group by a non-Indian; and

- authorized, with a 33-1 vote, the chief to execute a contract for the Johnson O'Malley Indian education programs and include funds for early childhood development. The tribe contracts the program from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and administers the program with more than 10,000 participants in 44 schools throughout the tribe's political distribution.

Voting no was S. McIntosh.

All ordinances and tribal resolutions will be forwarded to Fife for his consideration. He has 10 working days to approve or veto the actions. He may also choose to do nothing in which case the acts will be considered valid after the 10 days.

The November regular session will be Nov. 18 because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Notices

Program to sponsor basketball tournament

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Community Health Representative program is hosting its annual Indian youth basketball tournament Dec. 29 and 30 at Wilson School Gymnasium.

The format includes divisions for boys and girls in three divisions based on class including seventh through ninth grades and 10th through 12th grades. First and second place winners will receive team and individual trophies.

Entry fee is \$50 and is due Dec. 8.

Mail entries to: CHR Program, 700 N. Mission, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

For more information, call (918) 756-1941 or 1 (800) 398-5379.

Council representative to host barbecue

BRISTOW — Muscogee National Council Creek District Representative Earl Wheeler is hosting a barbecue dinner for his campaign supporters beginning at noon, Nov. 18 at Bruner Barbecue, five miles east of Bristow on state highway 16.

A gospel and country music band will perform. For more information, contact Wheeler at (918) 366-9700.

New video titles announced

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department has produced a video on the recent Council Oak Ceremony held at Veterans Park in Tulsa, Oklahoma on Oct. 29.

The video, which includes highlights of the ceremony, dancing, and stickball, is available for \$10. Also included is a video about wild onions.

Direct inquiries to Gerald Wofford at (918) 756-8700, ext. 300.

Please mail check or money order to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Citizens to organize veterans group

OKMULGEE — Muscogee citizens are surveying readers in a preliminary assessment of tribal members who are U.S. military veterans. Veterans may have served in peace time or have combat duty.

The following information is being requested:

- name;
- address;
- branch of service;
- rate-rank at time of discharge;
- degree of Creek blood;
- special awards, honors, citations, medals, or other significant facts; and
- membership in veterans' organizations.

After a sufficient number of replies have been received, a committee will be established. They will be asked to develop a viable agenda and-or project which will promote and preserve the history and deeds of Creek veterans for posterity, said Jorene Coker, a U.S. Navy WAVES veteran and organizer. "We need to bring to the attention of everybody just what our Creeks contributed to the welfare of our country..."

Other organizers are Phillip Coon, U.S. Army, and Charlie Coker, U.S. Air Force.

Submit information to Mrs. Coker at: P.O. Box 157, Preston, OK 74456.

Tribal community health representatives recognized for service

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation community health representatives have been recognized for their work with the tribe recently.

Muscogee citizen Collene Jones received the CHR program award for health representative of the year for 1995.

"The award was based on her dedication and commitment to our people," said Kim Jenkins program manager. "She is a strong advocate for the people she serves and can be found wherever she is needed."

Jones represented the program at the state conference in Tulsa. She has been with the program since 1992.

Jones, and her husband, James, reside near Dustin.

Mary Ann Kane and Christine Roberts were also recognized by Jenkins for their work with the CHR eyeglass program for the period including August, September, and October.

Jenkins said more than 158 eyeglass vouchers were processed through the program that provides corrective lenses for those eligible children and elderly applicants.



Kane



Roberts



photo by Gerald Wofford

Collene Jones, right, receives her award for CHR of the year from program manager Kim Jenkins.

Kane, a caseworker, has been employed with the tribe since 1991. Roberts has been employed with the tribe since 1977.

The CHR program provides transportation and related services to those Indians based on need and availability of services. The program is under the auspices of the tribal health administration. For more information, call (918) 756-1941 or 1 (800) 398-5379.

Muscogee Nation to receive two planning grants

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation is the recipient of planning grants for drug court planning and stopping violence against Indian women for the 1995-96 fiscal years.

The goal of the drug court planning grant is to facilitate strategic planning to develop, implement, and analyze a tribal-wide needs assessment to identify alternatives to incarceration for nonviolent substance abuse offenders and to establish a judicially supervised tracking system for program participants. The grant will also allow for the development of a treatment alternative to incarceration. These activities will aid the Nation in decreasing the rate of substance abuse by Muscogee citizens and provide treatment programs to reduce recidivism rates.

The drug court planning grant is worth \$35,000.

The violence against Indian women grant will be used to facilitate the training of law enforcement officers and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women. The grant will also be used to develop and implement a data collection system linking various agencies within the tribal justice and community services departments. The data collection system will be designed to track arrests, protection orders, prosecutions, and convictions for violent crimes against women including domestic violence and sexual assault. Grant activities will also include a review of the existing comprehensive criminal code for the Muscogee Nation and the enhancement of policies and protocols pertaining to the identification, prevention, and response to violent crimes against women.

The grant will provide funding for a lighthouse officer to respond to violent crimes against women only. Grant funds will also provide funding to train law

enforcement and department of justice personnel on issues of violent crimes against women.

The tribe will continue its support of the Okmulgee Safehouse-Creek Nation Court Appointed Special Advocates program by establishing a partnership with the facility.

Violent crimes against women is an issue of concern that has just recently achieved national prominence. The grant award is for \$75,000.

The two grant awards were prepared by Scott Johnson, the tribe's social planner. Other grant awards prepared by Johnson and received by the tribe are:

- Title IV-B Child Welfare Services — 1993, 1994, 1995;
- Indian Child Welfare Grant — 1993, 1994, 1995;
- Family Violence and Services Grant — 1993, 1994, 1995;
- Adoption Opportunities Grant — 1994;
- Family Preservation Planning Grant — 1994;
- Child Abuse Initiative Grant — 1993, 1994;
- Drug Court Planning Grant — 1995;
- STOP Violence Against Indian Women Grant — 1995; and
- Title- IV-B Child Welfare Services and Family Preservation and Support Five Year Plan Grant — 1996.

Grant awards from his work total \$4.8 million.

Change of address

OKMULGEE — Readers of *The MNN* are reminded to keep their addresses current. Send changes to the department at: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Please include individual tribal enrollment number with correspondence.

Education

Bureau of Indian Affairs seeks new seal

WASHINGTON — The Bureau of Indian Affairs is seeking the creation of a new seal.

The artwork should reflect the mission of the BIA which is — to improve and protect the quality of life for natives peoples "through the delivery of quality services, maintaining government to government relationships with the spirit of Indian self-determination."

Artwork should be approximately 15 inches in diameter. There is no specific medium or paper required to be used. The artist's name, tribe, and address should be included. Deadline for submissions is Dec. 6. Artwork will not be returned unless requested.

Send submissions to: Office of Indian Education Programs, Attn. Seal Coordinator, 1849 C. St. NW, Mailstop 3512, Washington D.C. 20240.

Tribal citizen receives scholarship

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Tribal citizen Ronald DeBlanc, Lamar University, has been named a fall 1995 recipient of The Native American Scholarship Fund.

Any enrolled member of a federally, state, or terminated tribe who is at least one-fourth blood quantum is eligible to apply. Funding priorities are math, engineering, science, business, education, and computers.

Students who wish to apply may contact the NASF office at: 8200 Mountain Road NE, Suite 203, Albuquerque, N.M. 87110.

Citizen is special teams player for OU

NORMAN — Fort Worth Senior Keith Sparks is a member of The University of Oklahoma Football Team.

Sparks' duties include a position on the Sooners' punting team.

In 1994 he played in one game and saw action on special teams. He provided quality depth as the number three blocking back on the depth chart.

Sparks was a defensive lineman in 1993. He played in eight games, mostly at noseguard. He had eight total tackles and four quarterback hurries in those eight games. Sparks was an exceptional performer on special teams.

His 38-inch vertical jump is the best on the team. His 425 pound bench press is the third best on the squad; his 400 pound incline is second best. Sparks' clean is the third best on the team at 292 pounds. He runs the 40-yard-dash in 4.6 seconds.



Sparks

Citizen's metalwork to be on special exhibit at museum

ANADARKO — The metalwork of tribal citizen Timothy Tiger will be exhibited from Nov. 12 through Jan. 16 at the Southern Plains Indian Museum.

An exhibit preview will be held from 1 to 4:30 p.m., Nov. 12 in which Tiger will be present to discuss his work.

Tiger's artistic inspiration derives from history, current events, and family history. His mixed media metalwork pieces are assembled from copper, steel, brass, bronze, aluminum, wood, and found objects. His techniques include lost wax casting, enameling, electroforming, anodizing, stretching copper, and etching. He finalizes his pieces by oxidizing or by copper electroplating.

As Tiger explains, "my current body of work 'Stereotypes and Attitudes,' explores [topics from] the disaster of the Spiro Mounds in the 1930s to current affairs involving stereotypes and bigotry. My work is an ongoing expression of attitude and means. I blend my feelings with historical events and-or political comment on the state of being Indian today."

Tiger's recent awards include first place in the 1993 Oklahonma State University Studio Art Show and a Society of North American Goldsmiths' Minority Student Fellowship in 1994.

Among the most powerful pieces in the exhibit is "Stereotypes and Attitudes X" which refers to the looting and destruction of the prehistoric Spiro

Mounds site in the 1930s. Other mixed media metalwork assemblages explore the complex path of an American Indian artist in the late 20th century.



Tiger

Tiger received a bachelor of fine arts degree in studio art in 1991 and a certificate in Native American studies in 1994 from OSU. Currently, he is working on a bachelor of arts degree in art history at OSU.

Sparks is a sociology major. He also possesses an aviation license.

He is the son of Helen Marks and Rolen Sparks.

Citizen enrolls at Saint Louis University

ST. LOUIS — Muscogee citizen Isaac T. Warren is enrolled in his first semester at Saint Louis University. He is enrolled in the pre-law scholars program.

Saint Louis University is a private, Jesuit university and the first university established west of the Mississippi River. The liberal arts university enrolls approximately 11,000 students on its four campuses, including one in Madrid, Spain.

Warren is the son of John and Susan Warren of Prague.

Dr. Minoka Hill Scholarships available

BOULDER, Colo. — The Dr. Rosa Minoka Hill Fund announces its fall 1995 season for scholarship applications.

The fund endeavors to arrange scholarships for high school age American Indian students to attend some of the nation's outstanding private college preparatory schools.

The fund is named to honor the memory and lifelong humanitarian service of Lillie Rosa Minoka Hill, a Mohawk woman who became a doctor of medicine at the end of the 19th century.

To receive an application write: 1630 30th St.,

Suite 309, Boulder, CO 80301-1000; or call (303) 492-3108.

Primary consideration will be given to those whose applications are received by Dec. 31.

Foundation creates first endowed chair

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Plans for an endowed chair of American Indian studies at Haskell Indian Nations University will be a reality soon.

Dr. Dee Ann DeRoin, president of the board of trustees foundation, has established the Archie and Mollie Hawkins Endowment for the Distinguished Chair in American Indian Studies. The endowment honors the work of the Hawkinses, who are alumni and long-time supporters of the university. Mr. Hawkins is a charter member of the Haskell Foundation Board of Trustees.

University president Bob Martin said the endowed chair will provide Haskell the opportunity to hire a faculty member who is a recognized expert in American Indian studies.

DeRoin said that the foundation would need approximately one-half to three quarters of a million dollars for the endowment.

The foundation is a non-profit organization created in 1984 to receive grants and gifts on behalf of HINU.

Persons interested in contributing to the endowment effort should contact the Haskell foundation at (913) 749-8417.

Birthdays

Courtney Brown

TULSA —

Courtney Rae Brown was born Aug. 1 to Glen and Juanita Brown of Glenpool.

Her maternal grandparents are Roberta Garner and the late Sam Factor. Her paternal grandparents are Otis and Madelyn Brown, Duck Creek.



Brown

Another party was held at her home on Oct. 22.

Berryhill is a preschool student at Miss Sherie's Playhouse and Learning Center, Okmulgee.

She is the daughter of Kara Crook, Beggs, and Mike Berryhill.

Her maternal grandparents are Wendell and Deanna Crook; her great-grandparents are Lillie Crook and Eula and the late Roy Swanson, all of Beggs.

She is the granddaughter of Jean Berryhill, Lawrence, Kan. and Thomas and Janice Berryhill, Duck Creek.

Her great-grandparents are Elizabeth Porter, Coweta, and Thomas and the late Blanche Berryhill, Wilson Community.



Berryhill

years old on Oct. 1.

He is the son of Danny and Janell Roberts, Morris.

Helping him celebrate his birthday at their home were his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. William McLaughlin, his older brother, William Daniel, and other family and friends.

His paternal grandfather is Stanley Roberts of Nuyaka.



Roberts

Britain Back

TULSA — Britain Nicole Back, Creek-Yuchi, celebrated her third birthday July 7 with a Sesame Street party theme.

Many relatives and friends helped her celebrate with presents and games.

She is the daughter of Mark and Stephanie Back, Tulsa.

Her maternal grandparents are Melba Williams, Glenpool, and Joe Skeeter, Mounds. Paternal grandparents are Jerry and Margaret Back, Tulsa.



Back

Caitlin Paige Coker

CHANDLER — Caitlin Paige Coker celebrated her second birthday Oct. 13.

She is the daughter of Cheryl Douglas, Chandler, and Barry Coker, Wewoka.

Her grandparents are Edmond "Sonny" Coker, Holdenville, Cora Lee Coker, Wewoka, and Bill and the late Norma Williams Douglas, Chandler. Coker is the great-granddaughter of Cora Belle McCombs of Holdenville.



Coker

Mark Back

TULSA — Creek-Yuchi citizen Mark Alan Back II celebrated his fifth birthday Oct. 4 at home with many friends and relatives.

He had a cowboy birthday party theme and played Pin the Tail on the Donkey and Limbo.

His parents are Mark and Stephanie Back.

His grandparents are: Melba Williams, Glenpool; Joe Skeeter, Mounds; and Jerry and Margaret Back, Tulsa.



Back

Caleb Franks

HOLDENVILLE — Caleb Franks celebrated his first birthday Oct. 13.

He is the son of Norman Franks and Angeline Lowe.

His paternal grandparents are Charles and Susanna Franks. Great-grandparents are Emma and the late Taylor Franks and the late Albert and Elizabeth Lowe.

Maternal grandparents are Tochee and Dan Narcomey. Great-grandparents are Angel and the late Elizabeth Lowe and Katie and the late George Narcomey.



Franks

Karissa Berryhill

TULSA — Karissa Malynn Berryhill celebrated her third birthday Oct. 20 with a party held at Chuck E. Cheese's.

Her birthday party theme was "The Lion King." Attending were her parents, great-grandfather, Thomas Berryhill, her friend, Kristin Gay Kiehl, and other friends and relatives.

Zachary Roberts

MORRIS — Zachary Elias Roberts turned 2

Soul Monkeys place in competition

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Tribal citizen Victor "Smilin' Vic" Gutierrez and his Oklahoma City-based band, "Soul Monkeys," placed third in the International Blues Talent Competition held in October.

The seven-piece band qualified for the event by winning a regional competition held in Oklahoma City. The band performed two selections to win the Oklahoma City contest: the Freddie King classic — "Same Ole Blues;" and B.B. King's "You Made Your Move Too Soon."

Twenty-five bands, from the U.S., Australia, and England, competed in the all-day competition.

The recent trip marked his third entry in the international competition. "Soul Monkeys" are: Cleve Warren, drums; Larry Feuerbron, bass; Jimmy Demopolos, keyboard; Mitch Traylor, guitar; Gary Riley, alto sax; and Chris Wiser, tenor sax. Gutierrez has been with the Oklahoma City band for two years.

Gutierrez is the son of Jimmie and Rachel Gutierrez of Bristow.

Tulsa Mvskokvlke plans holiday events

TULSA — Tulsa Mvskokvlke (formerly Tulsa Creek Indian Community) will hold an informal meeting-covered dish Thanksgiving dinner at 6 p.m., Nov. 16.

The dinner will be held at Quality Inn, Interstate 44 and 41st Street. All individuals are invited to fellowship with them.

The community plans to participate in the Tulsa "Parade of Lights" Dec. 9 and will have its annual Christmas dinner Dec. 16. The time and location will be announced at a later date.

Alabama Creeks learn Mvskoke

ATMORE, Ala. — Certificates of graduation were presented to 16 Creeks who studied the Mvskoke language under the instruction of Oklahoma City Mvskokulke George Bunny.

George Bunny taught the students for eight weeks in July and August.

Obituaries

POLLY HARLEY

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Polly Harley were held Oct. 24 at Robert Simons Funeral Home.

A wake service was held Oct. 23.

She was born June 10, 1928 in Okemah to Andy Panoske and Lisbee Pigeon. She died Oct. 20 in an Oklahoma City hospital.

She lived and worked in Oklahoma City most of her life, but had moved to Okmulgee during the last year. She was a medical aide for United Cerebral Palsy. She was a baptized at Trenton Baptist Church in Hannah.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dan Harley, on April 5, 1987.

Survivors include: two sons, Billy Harley, Mustang and Jay Dee Harley, Okmulgee; one daughter, Wilma Harley, Okmulgee; one brother, Toney Hill, Cromwell; four granddaughters; and seven grandsons.

Interment was at Sunnyside Cemetery, Del City.

OCIE MILLER

PORTER — Funeral services for Ocie Lee Couch Miller were held Oct. 16 at Newtown United Methodist Church with Rev. David Long Jr. officiating.

Miller was born May 11, 1907 to Amanda Harrington and John C. Couch at Vann's Lake Community. I.T. Miller belonged to the Wind Clan.

She was educated in Vann's Lake district school, Bacone College, The University of Chicago, The University of Oregon, The University of California, and Northeastern State University.

She met her husband, Samuel Lee Miller, while attending Bacone. They married in 1930 at Newtown; she became a member of the church during the same year. She had been very active in the work of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference; she served as OIMC treasurer for seven years. She served seven years as executive secretary of the OIMC United Methodist Women also. She was a Sunday school teacher also. She taught school at Vann's Lake Community, and in public and Indian schools for a total of 29 years. She enjoyed teaching reading and instilling pride and responsibility in her students most. She touched many lives in a positive and caring manner; many former students visited her to offer their gratitude. After her retirement she became president and a member of Vann's Lake Extension Club and served on Sequoyah Boarding School and Muscogee Nation committees.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband; a brother, Roy Couch; a sister, Gertie Newberry; and a grandson, Merle Lee Chase.

She is survived by: a son, Samuel Doyle Miller,

Canton, Mich.; a daughter, Sandra Chase, Cypress, Calif.; sister, Allie Belle Corwin, Wagoner; brother, Johnnie Couch, South Point, Ohio; grandchildren, Stephen, Joanna, and Gregory Miller, Canton, Mich., and Tina, Walton, and Sarah Whitebird Chase, Cypress, Calif.; great-grandchildren, Amy Miller, Andrew Gleisten Chase, and Kristin Hayes Miller.

JOSIE ROBERTS JR.

HANNA — Funeral services for Josie Roberts Jr. were held Oct. 25 at Hanna First Baptist Church with Rev. Dusty McKeefer officiating. He was assisted by Rev. Doyle Loveland.

A song service was held Oct. 24 at Hanna Indian Community Center.

Roberts was born Feb. 3, 1942 in Hanna to Jack and Sadie Lindsey Roberts. He died Oct. 20. He married Carolyn Sue Jones on Oct. 19, 1981 in Seminole. He was employed by McIntosh County District 3 driving service vehicles until retiring for health-related reasons. He was member of Hanna First Baptist Church, Hanna Indian Community, and Eufaula Indian Community.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; an uncle, Martin Lindsey; and his grandmother, Ellis Narchubby Lindsey.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; and a sister, Mildred Ponoskey, Konawa.

Pallbearers were: Ireland Smith Jr.; Ray Harrington; James Paul Layman; James Davis; Mitch Barnett; and Wilbur Gouge.

Honorary pallbearers were: Jack Spear; Logan Mouser; Tom Pickering; Yahola Townsend; Harold Osborne; Floyd Osborne; and Andy Martin.

Gratitude

Our greatest appreciation is extended to all who aided us during our loss.

The flowers, cards, and food were all wonderful, but we especially want to thank everyone for their prayers and thoughts. They were the greatest gift that could have been offered.

We would like to say thank you to Bunny Hill who has been so much help to us — before and after our loss. We know that he was doing his job, but he went beyond that and was really appreciated. Again, thanks to everyone and please keep our family in your prayers.

Henry Chester Foshee Family

Our family wishes to thank Newtown United Methodist Church members for the lunch, flowers, and support. We would like to thank Vann's Lake Community for their love, food, and flowers also.

Ocie Lee Miller Family

We would like to thank everyone who provided

the family with food and sent flowers during the passing of our loved one.

Josie Roberts Jr. Family

Religion

Pickett Chapel reports church activities

SAPULPA — Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church members held a Veterans Day observance, coordinated by Mose Cahwee, on Nov. 12.

In other church news:

- members gave July and Mae Tulsa a surprise 54th wedding anniversary reception and money tree follow their Oct. 15 service;

- Al and Betty Pulver organized a tree planting event in commemoration of the bombing victims of the Alfred P. Murrah Building;

- church members have been collecting winter clothing, shoes, and blankets for the church street ministry. Church members have been helping feed homeless Tulsans on the first Monday of each month;

- church members are in the process of opening a thrift-gift shop at the church. It will be open once a week; proceeds will benefit the church; and

- Harrison and Maxine Barnett represented the Oklahoma Indian Methodist Conference at the Nebraska women's annual conference.

Grant Chapel Methodist schedules revival

WELTY — Grant Chapel United Methodist Church is holding a revival Nov. 24 through 26.

Seminole Hitchitee United Methodist Church pastor Harry Long will be the speaker all three nights. Refreshments will be served nightly.

Community schedules gospel singing

MUSKOGEE — Muscogee Indian Community Senior Action Group has scheduled a gospel singing to begin at 7 p.m., Dec. 9.

The master of ceremonies is Robert Jones.

The center is located at 111 S. Virginia. For more information, call (918) 682-2164.

Middle Creek #1 schedules revival

LAMAR — Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church has scheduled a revival to be held Nov. 15, 16, and 17.

Bemo Baptist schedules holiday activities

BIXBY — Bemo Baptist Church has scheduled Christmas and New Year's Eve activities.

Christmas service will be held at 11 a.m., Dec. 17. Dinner will be served at 1 p.m. Following dinner, Santa Claus is to provide gifts and candy for all in attendance.

New Year's Eve service will begin with a 6 p.m. supper. A church service and Mvskoke and gospel singing will follow through midnight.

For more information, call (918) 832-8951.

Election

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Cloud is a retired rancher and had a lengthy relationship in a variety of roles with the Muscogee Nation, including a stint as National Council speaker.

Gonseth is the current director of Creek Nation Head Start. It was her first attempt at elective office.

Gray is a former tribal employee making his first foray into tribal politics.

Fife and Beaver were political opponents for principal chief in the 1991 tribal election.

Election results

• indicates runoff, otherwise winners listed first

Second Chief

- Ken Childers — 1,362
- George Almerigi — 1,115
- Charley LaSarge — 1,068
- Perry Anderson — 850
- K.T. Fields — 179

Constitutional Amendment For — 3,926

Against — 285

Council races by district

Creek District

Seat A
Earl Wheeler — 253

Soloman Hill — 170

Seat B

George Tiger — 228

Duke Harjo — 197

McIntosh District

Seat A

Tommy Pickering — 486

Carrie Williams — 294

Seat B

Wilbur Gouge — 488

Barbara Fogle — 267

Seat C

Thomas McIntosh — 427

Yahola Townsend — 366

Muscogee District

Seat A

Helen Chupco — 205

Joseph Coachman — 74

Seat B

• Harley Little — 130

• Leonard Gouge — 89

Frances Pease — 61

Okfuskee District

Seat A

• Nancy Watson — 170

• Billy Williams — 134

Mae Jackson — 128

Gary Mitchell — 59

Seat B

• Bruce Smith — 209

• Wynema Roberts — 193

Seat C

Clyde Johnson — 323

Simmer Hicks — 168

Okmulgee District

Seat A

• David Lewis — 352

• Peggy Lyda — 299

Betty Gray — 173

Woodrow Lee — 160

Seat B

• Anderson Hale — 372

• Garry Berryhill — 298

July Tecumseh — 287

Seat C

Abe McIntosh — 495

Charlie Litsey — 482

Seat D

• David Nichols — 452

• Patsy Wahnee — 283

Thomas Berryhill — 251

Tukvpytce District

Seat A

Dwayne Lowe — 395

James McGirt — 229

Seat B

Edwin Marshall — 249

Timmie Fife — 220

L.C. Franks — 165

Seat C

Johnson Buck — 336

Darrell Coachman — 292

Tulsa District

Seat A

Larry Bible — 361

Teddy McHenry — 255

Richard Wilde — 101

Seat B

Irene Cleghorn — 378

Earl King — 342

Seat C

• Carol Morris — 180

• Ronald Cleghorn — 167

Stanley McGilbray — 148

Edwin Moore — 116

Okema Randall — 106

Seat D

Stephen Bruner — 342

Jerry Wilson — 258

Faren Bunny — 122

Seat E

Jesse Kelley — 413

Earl Kelly — 293

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District

Seat A

Richard Berryhill — 142

Thurston Primeaux — 68

Seat B

Barbara Gillespie — 131

Marie Crittenden — 83

Court dismisses petitions, election results final

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation District Court Judge Pat Moore dismissed five petitions alleging fraud and irregularities in the Oct. 28 primary election.

Candidates Earl King, Mae Jackson, Wynema Roberts, Betty Gray, and Duke Harjo filed petitions with the election board.

Four of the five are incumbents (Gray is the exception) and only Roberts is in the Dec. 2 run-off.

The quintet alleged irregularities ranging from voting accommodations, spoiled ballots, and the posting times for absentee ballots among others.

Moore decided the election board "substantially complied with [the] Nation's election laws when conducting the Oct. 28 primary elections."

The primary results will stand.

As *The MNN* went to press Nov. 11, no appeals had been filed.

Second Chief Shelly Crow message

I want to thank all of you who supported me in my attempt for Principal Chief and especially for the faith you placed in me these past four years. I appreciate the prayers and all of the hard work. I will never forget that God allowed me the opportunity to serve my

people as second chief.

I can honestly say I promised no one any position of authority nor favors during my campaign. I have strived to serve you to my best ability. God bless the Creek Nation's future and pray for our new leaders.

Pastor recalls war

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Chester Nimitz, Supreme Commander of the Pacific Fleet.

Doyle spent much of the remainder of his tour at Guam. It was there he saw the first new superfortress bomber, the B-29. He also witnessed the departure of the most famous B-29, the Enola Gay, on its mission to drop the first atomic bomb in August 1945.

Doyle dismisses the controversy that has developed about the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Unless one was there fighting, one could not understand Doyle said. The bombing saved several thousand lives and brought an end to the war.

"It was welcomed by all of us."

Doyle returned to the states later that summer. He married Nora in 1950 and was ordained as a Baptist minister in 1957. Today he is pastor of Snake Creek Baptist Church. He and his wife reside in Coweta.

Letters

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who will not forget us. Let us examine their records and accomplishments. Almost all of the candidates contend they are aware of the communication problem [between tribal government and citizens] and have promised to correct it. A great majority of elected officers have forgotten their promises.

I feel real excited about this election year and I am remembering the excitement in the people's faces as they know in their hearts that they are making a big difference as a voter this time around.

Rev. John Lowe, Oklahoma City

Citizen makes allegations

Editor:

The letter [*The MNN*, August 1995] with Gloria Lowe's signature on it confirms my suspicion that the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Board of Directors needs to be educated on the terminology I used [*The MNN*, July 1995].

Nepotism: [TCIC Chair] Loretta Wilson Kelly's husband, Earl, was a board member that hired her sister as smokeshop manager. He is on the enterprise board that hired her to work for TCIC. Hiring a sister-in-law and stepson is nepotism. Chief Fife appointed his brother-in-law Ed Mouss. How good are our laws without enforcement?

Conflict of interest: Kelly appointed Earl King, a Tulsa District representative, to the enterprise board that is in charge of the smokeshop. She also appointed Carol Morris, TCIC Women's Auxiliary secretary, Miss TCIC Committee, gift shop personnel manager, enterprise board, and Council Oak Ceremony Committee chair.

When Tulsa Rep. Irene Cleghorn questioned why she appointed the same people, Loretta replied — "No one would volunteer." I was recognized by the chair and volunteered. She replied, "I'll consider it," and that was months ago.

Irresponsible spending: a well-known Indian-owned business had put a bid in for

a computer. The community bought from a non-Indian. The computer was purchased one year ago. Mr. Kelly stated at a meeting that it was outdated and that they wanted to purchase a new one. A copier was purchased for \$9,000. The community was unaware it was a used unit until it broke down.

The enterprise board spent an undisclosed amount of money for a second smokeshop that was built on property they leased for \$3,000 per month. Three months rent was paid. Unfortunately, they didn't apply for a tobacco license first and were denied. More expense was incurred to remove the building and reconstruct it. Lowe should have receipts and invoices available to account for these expenses. However, numerous requests for a total amount spent for this fiasco have gone unanswered. When the treasurer [Lowe] was asked for a report, the reply was — "The records are in the hands of the accounting firm." When asked what her job is if the accounting firm is in charge of processing the accounts,

she stated her job was to "write checks."

Business practices: I know of no other government entity that makes loans with no interest, no security or collateral, and no background or credit checks. Evidently the only requirement for a loan is a signature. There have been no reports released indicating the number and amount of loans that have been made.

Does Chief Fife really want to know why Muscogee (Creek) citizens are unhappy and skeptical of our government? It appears that the benefit of a privileged few is more important than the good of the people and the good of communities. Our Indian people are feeling hopelessly betrayed. Elected officials should be held responsible for their actions. The Creek Nation citizens will not forget that the administration has been pleading Congress for more money. What will they do if they become completely sovereign?

Okema Randall, Broken Arrow